

TEST THRILLER IN TRINIDAD

How Alec Stewart set the pace for England

PAGE 28

A RECIPE FOR DISASTER?

Are celebrity chefs spreading themselves too thinly?

PAGE 13

WOMEN IN THE WAR ZONE

How Martha Gellhorn inspired a generation

PAGE 17

THE INDEPENDENT

Tuesday 17 February 1998 45p No 3,536

M16 in plot to kill Saddam

Exclusive

By Patrick Cockburn

A PLOT by M16, Britain's Secret Intelligence Service, to topple President Saddam Hussein collapsed in ignominy, triggering one of the worst defeats in its history.

The coup, organised by intelligence officers in Amman, Jordan, was crushed by the Iraqi leader, who executed as many as 80 conspirators and arrested hundreds more.

The revelation will be widely seen as contradicting British and American claims that they are not planning to topple the leadership in Baghdad. They have claimed repeatedly that the only issue at stake is the entry of UN weapons inspectors. Yet 18 months ago M16 and

the CIA joined in trying to foment a military coup against President Saddam in Iraq.

Members of the Iraqi opposition say that the organisation chosen by M16 and the CIA to organise the revolt in the Iraqi army is notorious for being riddled with informers.

CIA agents, angry that the White House stopped them from backing an attempt to assassinate President Saddam or mount a military attack on him, have confirmed for the first time to the *Los Angeles Times* that the attempted coup was a joint operation by M16 and the CIA.

The two intelligence agencies chose a group called the Iraqi National Accord, recruited from Iraqi army, party and intelligence officers, as the instrument through which to organise a military coup in Baghdad.

It is led by Dr Iyad Mohammed Alawi, a former member of Iraq's ruling Baath party, who has lived in London since 1971.

Other sources say that the London station of the CIA along with M16 played a key role in choosing the Accord to overthrow the Iraqi government. With money from the intelligence agencies it moved its headquarters to Jordan in early

1996 and tried to recruit serving Iraqi officers to act against President Saddam.

Other experienced opponents of the government in Baghdad say the conspiracy never stood a chance of success. One, who did not want his name published, said: "A coup like this cannot be stage-managed from the outside, as in the 1960s. Saddam has thirty years' experience

in keeping power." He added that the Iraqi National Accord has a bad reputation for containing many Iraqi double agents. The military conspiracy in Baghdad was crushed before it got off the ground. Dr Alawi had publicised his intention to start a mutiny in the Iraqi army. Starting in late June and early July 1996, there was a wave of arrests and executions of senior officers in an elite formation.

The number of those killed is not known but may be as high as eighty.

The CIA's attempt to overthrow President Saddam has received some publicity in the US, but the role of M16 in the failed coup has hitherto been kept secret. Few other operations by British intelligence have produced such immediately fatal results for its participants since M16 arranged in the late 1940s for Albanian anti-Communists to be sent back to their homeland under the supervision of Kim Philby.

M16 appears to have played a lesser role in an earlier attempt by the CIA to destabilise the government of President Saddam through building up opposition in Iraq's three Kurdish provinces from which the Iraqi army had withdrawn. Here,

a local team of CIA agents was prepared to carry out a much more aggressive campaign against the Iraqi leader than Washington was prepared to authorise.

So out of control did the CIA operation in Kurdistan become that the White House only learned what was happening because American code-breakers had intercepted the communications of the Iranian intelligence. From this they learned of their own men's involvement in an assassination plot against the Iraqi leader. They were immediately ordered by Washington not to give support to the conspiracy.

So frustrated did the acting head of the CIA become with some of his officers that he had them investigated by the FBI for trying to murder President Saddam.

UN Secretary-General may go on peace mission to Baghdad

SIGNS grew yesterday that the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, might make a personal eleventh-hour mission to Baghdad to try to avert a military strike against Iraq in the long-running dispute over UN arms inspections.

Mr Annan and the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council were to meet in New York to seek agreement on proposals that he could take

there to defuse the showdown. Mr Annan is likely to meet the Iraqi Foreign Minister, Mohammed Said al-Sahhaf, in Paris tomorrow.

Diplomats said the United States and Britain were prepared to support a mission by Mr Annan, provided that he was given clear "bottom-line conditions" by the Security Council.

The computer that can hack into your emotions

By Nicholas Schoon
in Philadelphia

FRUSTRATED? Angry? No one understands you? Never mind, get a computer. Computers are being taught to sense different human emotions.

The work is being done by Dr Rosalind Picard, who runs the world's first research group devoted to enabling computers to detect and respond to human emotions. She and her students have already built a variety of inconspicuous devices for people to wear which collect data on pulse and breathing rate, blood pressure and overall states of arousal - all important cues to our emotional state.

Dr Picard's team, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab, has, for instance, built "confusion-sensing glasses". They have detectors which can pick up electrical activity in the eyebrow muscles resulting from the slightest eyebrow-winkling, caused when we furrow our brows.

Dr Picard told the American Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting that emotions were fundamental to communication between people and to the way

we reason and take decisions.

Psychologists have shown that patients lacking emotions are unable to make rational decisions; if we don't feel sadness or frustration how are we to learn from our mistakes?

To have really effective communication between people and machines they will have to be programmed to first detect clues to our emotions, use the data to compute what state we are in and finally devise the correct response, Dr Picard said.

Within a couple of decades we are likely to be holding conversations with them, and the play of emotions - even if it is only subtle - is essential to good conversation. "We're talk-

ing about machines that really can adapt to you, just like a person adapts to you," she said.

The cues could be changes in voice, or expression. Already a computer has been programmed to recognise half a dozen extreme emotions, based on facial movements.

Dr Picard's group has been concentrating on physiological data, including how well the skin conducts electricity, which is what lie detectors measure. There is also the prospect of computers being able to pick up cues to our emotions when we touch them. Many of us, perhaps appropriately now spend much more time touching computers at work than we do touching people.



Lovey-dovey: Ian Holm, voted best actor at the Laurence Olivier Awards, kissing Zoe Wannamaker at the ceremony in London yesterday. Holm won for his performance in *King Lear*, soon to be repeated for television, and Wannamaker for *Electra*. Full story, page 3. Photograph: Peter Macdonald

Inquiry into mobile phone health risk

By Charles Arthur,
Science Editor

A GROUP of 18 volunteers will start tests soon to see whether using mobile phones can affect short-term memory, decision-making and reaction time.

The trials at the Bristol Royal Infirmary are part of a £100,000 investigation by the Department of Health to try to establish whether the microwave radiation emitted by hand-held phones could cause cancers or other illnesses.

The study also involves tests on rats at the Chemical and Biological Research Centre at Porton Down to examine whether mobile phone radiation causes "learning deficits". Dr John Tattersall, who is leading the research, will also carry out parallel research to evaluate the public's attitude to the risk posed by mobile phones.

The first fears over mobile phone technology were triggered by a 1993 US lawsuit on behalf of a woman who claimed

to have developed a tumour behind her left ear after using a mobile phone. Since then, a number of similar multi-million dollar lawsuits have been filed in the US; none has succeeded.

Between 1979 and 1991, the latest year for which full figures are available, the incidence of malignant primary brain tumours increased by 20 per cent in men and women in England and Wales - from about 5 to 6.2 per 100,000. But David Secber of the Cancer Research Campaign said: "The majority of that rise is among the over-70s, who rise is among the over-70s, who we might assume are not mobile phone users."

Alan Preece, the medical physicist who will be overseeing the tests at Bristol, said yesterday: "I would be quite surprised if there was any effect on the brain from using a mobile phone. I wouldn't expect the small amount of energy that gets absorbed by the brain to do anything but heat it up slightly, and that would be dissipated just like any other warming."

Ministers poised to expel Sinn Fein from peace talks

By David McKittrick in Belfast
and Alan Murdoch in Dublin

THE British and Irish governments are poised to suspend Sinn Fein from the multi-party talks because of the IRA's assumed involvement in two Belfast killings.

The issue dominated yesterday's talks, the first session in Dublin rather than Belfast, but the matter was unresolved last night. The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, formally moved what is described as an indictment of Sinn Fein, citing the charge that it breached the Mitchell principles of non-violence.

This brought the scheduled business of the talks, consideration of new north-south links, to a halt. But after hours of argument the chairman, former US senator George Mitchell, had not uncovered enough common ground on how to deal with the charge.

Ulster's toll of violence

LOYALISTS were responsible for killing 13 people, and Republicans two people, between 20 July and 25 January, the Government said last night. The figures do not include the two murders in Belfast last week which police have

linked to the IRA. The figures say loyalists were also responsible for 51 shootings, six bombings and 36 assaults; Republicans were said to be behind 20 bombings, 21 shootings, and 26 assaults.

The talks are scheduled to reconvene this afternoon.

Last night the most likely outcome appeared to be exclusion of Sinn Fein until around 10 March, in line with the precedent of the Ulster Democratic Party, suspended after its parent organisation, the paramilitary Ulster Defence Association, admitted three killings.

Such a timetable would avoid complications arising from a possible visit to the US of the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, for St Patrick's Day celebrations on 17 March. He and other Sinn Fein lead-

ers yesterday mounted a rear-guard battle which helped delay resolution of the issue. The Republicans say their position is different to that of the UDP in that the UDA admitted killings, while the IRA has declared its truce is intact.

Sinn Fein says expulsion would be against natural justice, and that even temporary exclusion would endanger the peace process. Later Mr Adams said: "I am absolutely pissed off with trying to make this thing work and those who have no interest in making it work seize upon two men being killed to exploit it and bring

this process down." As the talks were going on, four men were charged in Belfast in connection with the murder of Robert Dougan, one of the killings in contention.

It is understood Ms Mowlam advanced no fresh evidence against Sinn Fein, relying on last week's statement by the RUC Chief Constable, Ronnie Flanagan, that he believed the IRA was involved. Last night the Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, said he had received a personal assurance from Tony Blair that there was evidence of IRA involvement in the killings. He said he trusted Mr Blair's words.

The future's not ours to see. Life is unpredictable. So we've made the Virgin Personal Pension every bit as flexible as you'll need to be. Don't delay. Call us now for an information pack.

direct

0345 900 900

Open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back all the money you invest. The basis of tax may change and the value of the tax benefit depends on how much tax you pay. For your security all calls to Virgin Direct are recorded and randomly monitored.

Straw opts for press freedom

By Anthony Bevins
Political Editor

THE balance between individual privacy and press freedom was tilted firmly in favour of the media by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, last night.

Opening a Commons debate on the Human Rights Bill, Mr Straw gave the strongest possible assurance to press critics that the legislation would not be used to introduce a backdoor privacy law. But the Bill - which enshrines the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, "bringing rights home" from Strasbourg to the domestic courts - will give teeth to the Press Complaints Commission's self-regulatory code of conduct.

A government source said that officials were in discussion with the commission to see whether the code could be strengthened, with the possibility of fines being built into the system of self-regulation.

The deal to change the balance of the Bill more firmly in favour of the press was struck at a meeting last Friday between Mr Straw and Lord Wakeham, the commission chairman.

Mr Straw told the House: "We have repeatedly stated our support for the freedom of the media and our opposition to a statutory privacy law."

But he recognised press concerns, and saw it as the duty of government and Parliament "to assuage those anxieties if we possibly can." To fulfil that

duty, a framework of amendments to the Bill had been agreed with Lord Wakeham, a former Tory minister.

Under the European Convention on Human Rights, there were two articles of particular concern: "The Article 10 right to freedom of expression, and the Article 8 right to respect for private and family life."

The Home Secretary said it was worth pointing out that in practice, the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights had extensively used the convention "to buttress and uphold the freedom of the press against efforts by the state to restrict it."

Those European judgments, would have to be taken into account by the judges in this country he said, but Mr Straw accepted that there was the need for further reassurance.

He had agreed to an amendment to the Bill, containing "an explicit provision on the face of the Bill that, in any case in which a person applies for relief or a remedy on Article 8 grounds related to respect for private life, and the granting of a remedy would raise issues concerning an Article 10 convention right, the court must have particular regard to freedom of expression."

Mr Straw said the amendments would "constitute a useful signal and reminder to the United Kingdom courts" that the balance was tilted against privacy and in favour of media freedom.

Leading article, page 16



Against the Ayatollah's declaration: Robin Cook greeting Salman Rushdie at the Foreign Office yesterday

Cook vows to fight threat to Rushdie

By Louise Jury

SALMAN Rushdie was given public government backing yesterday when he was permitted to hold his first press conference in the ornate surroundings of the Foreign Office.

While Douglas Hurd, then Foreign Secretary, met Salman Rushdie behind closed doors, the novelist yesterday sat next to Robin Cook, the minister pledged to put pressure on Iran to withdraw the death sentence on him.

The meeting came nine years after the Ayatollah

Khomeini issued the *fatwa* against Mr Rushdie over his book *The Satanic Verses*.

Following the signal from the Prime Minister, who welcomed Mr Rushdie to dinner at Chequers on Saturday, the anniversary of the *fatwa*, Mr Cook made clear his personal sense of outrage and his determination to act.

"I have given [Mr Rushdie] an assurance that working to remove the threat to his life will be a central priority of this Government's policy in relation to Iran and I'll be working to get the maximum support for that

from our European partners," Mr Cook said.

The Government is to ask for a written assurance from the current more moderate Iranian government that it, unlike its predecessor, would not further the *fatwa* against the novelist.

And it is to encourage European support to secure the removal of the \$2.5m (£1.6m) bounty upon Mr Rushdie's head.

Standing beside Mr Cook and beneath a painting of St Cecilia, martyred for refusing to renounce her Christian faith, Mr Rushdie, 50, contrasted the ac-

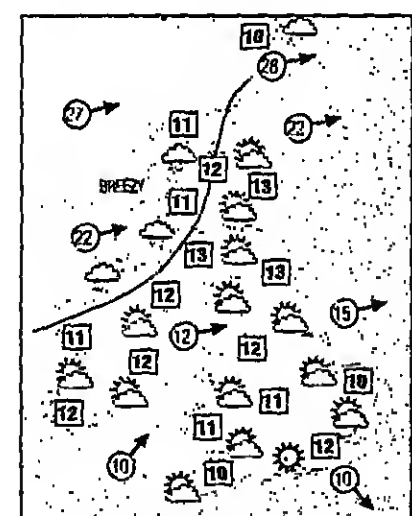
tion with that of the previous Conservative administration.

"I do have a real sense of a new drive behind this issue. I'm very grateful," he said.

Mr Rushdie said he suspected the Tories had sent out "nods and winks" to Europe that a low-key approach was the best way to tackle his predicament and he hoped Europeans would now follow the more positive lead being offered.

Mr Rushdie said he remained proud of *The Satanic Verses* and he believed few British Muslims were now opposed to it.

WEATHER

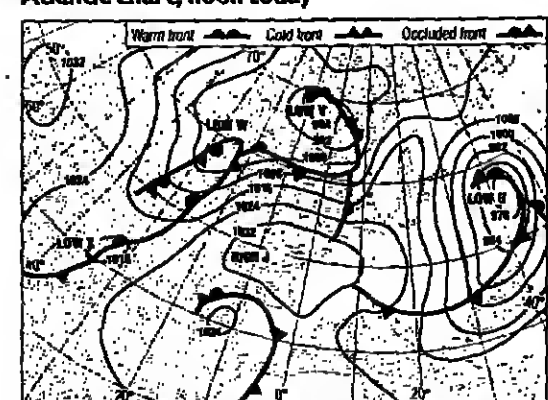


Western Scotland and north-western parts of Northern Ireland will be rather dull and breezy with occasional drizzle, steady at times near coasts. Eastern Scotland and the rest of Northern Ireland will be mostly dry with pleasant sunny breaks and it will be very mild for February. England and Wales will be dry and fine with plenty of sunshine, and although temperatures will be above normal it will not be as warm as last week. South-east coasts will see less.

Outlook for the next few days

It will remain mostly dry and settled on Wednesday but overnight fog may be slow to clear from the Midlands. A few parts will see a little drizzle, these being mainly in the far north and north-west. Thursday will be generally cloudy, only the south-east likely to get any decent sunshine, with rain and drizzle affecting western parts. On Friday rain will cross the UK being replaced by a cooler, showery air mass.

Atlantic chart, noon today



British Isles weather

Most recent available figures at noon local time. C: Cloudy; D: clear; F: fog; H: high; H: high; M: mist; S: sunny; St: shower; Sh: snow; R: rain; T: thunder.

Aberdeen D 7.45	Bristol C 8.45	Birmingham F 11.52	Newcastle Sh 8.45
Ammanford Sh 10.50	Cardiff C 8.45	Leamington B 7.45	Nottingham C 11.52
Ayr C 10.50	Exeter C 10.50	Leeds C 11.52	Plymouth C 11.52
Belfast C 10.50	Gloucester C 10.50	London C 11.52	Scarborough C 11.52
Birmingham Sh 11.52	Hull C 10.50	Manchester C 11.52	Sheffield C 11.52
Blackpool F 8.45	Leeds C 10.50	Nottingham C 11.52	Stirling C 11.52
Bournemouth C 11.52	Leeds C 10.50	Nottingham C 11.52	Stirling C 11.52
Brighton C 12.54	Leeds C 10.50	Nottingham C 11.52	Stirling C 11.52

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London	05:05	6.7	17:30	6.7
Liverpool	02:18	8.5	14:32	8.5
Avonmouth	10:21	11.8	22:37	11.3
Hull (Albert Dock)	09:37	8.0	21:49	8.1
Gower	03:54	3.1	15:51	3.3
Dun Laoghaire	02:45	3.6	15:13	3.7

Lighting-up times

	17:35	18:00	18:30	19:00
Belfast	17:35	18:00	18:30	19:00
Birmingham	17:23	17:58	18:28	18:58
Bristol	17:23	17:58	18:28	18:58
Glasgow	17:25	17:50	18:20	18:50
London	17:19	17:44	18:14	18:44
Manchester	17:23	17:48	18:18	18:48
Newcastle	17:17	17:42	18:12	18:42

Sun & moon

Sun rises	07:11	Sun sets	17:19
Moon rises	23:44	Moon sets	09:38
Last quarter	February 19		

Out and about with AA Roadwatch

Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association. Calls charged at 50p per min at all times (inc VAT).

World weather

City	Temp	City	Temp	City	Temp	City	Temp
Aberdeen	10.84	Chicago	11.52	Lima	31.65	Yokohama	11.52
Ammanford	10.84	Christchurch	12.54	Lisbon	18.61	Zurich	11.52
Ammanford	10.84	Copenhagen	8.44	Los Angeles	14.57		
Ammanford	10.84	Dublin	10.84	London	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Edinburgh	10.84	Madrid	15.55		
Ammanford	10.84	Exeter	10.84	Moscow	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Glasgow	10.84	New York	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Gloucester	10.84	Osaka	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Hull	10.84	Paris	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leamington	10.84	Rome	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Sao Paulo	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Seoul	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Shanghai	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Singapore	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Stockholm	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Taipei	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Tokyo	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Winnipeg	11.52		
Ammanford	10.84	Leeds	10.84	Zurich	11.52		



MICHAEL HANLON
WEATHER WISE

SPECTACULAR temperatures have been recorded in southern Britain over the past week, as an area of high pressure centred on western France has sent warm dry air in our direction from Africa and the Canary Islands. In several places, the mercury has soared to a summery 20C - the sort of temperatures we associate with a flaming June, not a foggy February.

Of course, every silver lining has a cloud; skiers are unlikely to be appreciating the warmth, which has cleared the snow from the Scottish slopes and is threatening to do the same in the Alps.

When the prevailing wind direction is from the south, the very warmest places to be in Britain are often on the north coasts of South-west England. Already mild air blows across the Channel, picking up some moisture on the way. As the air is forced over the West Country moors, it rises and cools a few degrees, and some of the moisture condenses out as rain or mist.

Continuing north, the air then descends over the northern flanks of Exmoor, Dartmoor and Bodmin Moor, warming as it falls. The air is now drier than before, having lost its moisture on the hills. Dry air warms up more easily than moist air, and so there is a net heat gain of 3-5C, good news for the people of Lymington and Ilfracombe.

This effect is called a Föhn wind, and this weather feature, on a much larger scale, is common in the northern Alpine valleys of Austria, Switzerland and Bavaria at this time of year, making the snow disappear before your eyes.

Spectacular Föhn winds, locally called the Chinook, affect the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains of North America. In 1988, a particularly strong

Chinook nearly wiped out the Winter Olympics in Calgary, as temperatures rose from -10C to around 20C in less than one day.

Föhn winds are not the only airflows both consistent and unusual enough to be given a name. The south of France often falls victim to the Mistral, a kind of anti-Föhn that sweeps south down the Rhone valley in winter, bringing unusually cold air to the Mediterranean coast. The Harmattan blows across the Saharan dust all over West Africa and sometimes into Europe and onto freshly-washed cars and washing lines. And the Texas Norther can see temperatures plummet in this sub-tropical state to below freezing in January and February. The same wind, which changes its name to Tehuantepec as it crosses the Rio Grande, brings a chill to the Mexican plains.

The Arabian Khamasin, or Sirocco, blows hot dry air from the south-east. Khamasin winds can bring temperatures of 50C or more across the Middle East and North Africa. Fortunately, for anyone experiencing such outlandish temperatures, the humidity will probably be close to zero.

CONTENTS

News	2-9	Shares	22
Foreign	10-12	Unit Trusts	23
Health	15	Sport	24-28
Visual Arts	14		
Leader & letters	16		
Comment	17		
Obituaries	18		
Business	19-23		



Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997.

£98
6 days plus

Now you can afford to take the whole squad to France this summer.

£55
5 Day return

Le Shuttle

Perthshire ←→ Cairns, Coquimbos up to 4 times an hour • Price includes car and all passengers • For information and reservations call 0990 35 35 35 or your local travel agent.

Supersaver bookings must be made 1 day in advance and by the 31st March 1999.

Catholic anger at Murdoch's papal knighthood

By Steve Boggan

The Roman Catholic church is receiving complaints from worshippers following news that Rupert Murdoch has been awarded a papal knighthood from Pope John Paul II.

Senior Catholics are said to have been "mystified and astonished" when they heard that the purveyor of newspaper sex, scandal and nudity was made a Knight Commander of St Gregory at a ceremony in Los Angeles last month.

News of the award was kept out of Mr

Murdoch's British titles - the *Sun*, the *Times*, the *Sunday Times* and the *News of the World* - at his request, although it is provoking outrage in the religious media and in Ireland, where many Catholics have reacted with anger that Mr Murdoch, who is not a Catholic, appears to have been honoured purely for donating large sums of money to the church. He and his wife, Anna, who is a Catholic, are known in Los Angeles as large contributors to the Archdiocesan Education Foundation, although specific amounts are not known.

The award was made by the Pope at the

suggestion of Cardinal Archbishop Roger Mahony of Los Angeles. His recommendation was voted by the Secretariat of State at the Vatican before being given the approval of the pontiff.

The knighthood is bestowed upon people of "unblemished character". It was presented by the Cardinal at St Francis De Sales Church in Los Angeles on 11 January. Other recipients included Bob Hope and Roy Disney, of the Walt Disney empire.

The reaction of Catholics in Britain has been almost unanimously negative.

Deborah Jones, editor of the *Catholic*

Herald, said: "We have been receiving a much larger mailbag than usual, about 99 per cent of it asking: 'What the hell is the church doing giving him a knighthood?'"

"The great majority are complaining about page 3 girls and soft pornography in his newspapers and on his satellite channels. Some of the more thoughtful ones are expressing concern over his monopolistic tendencies and his [legal] reluctance to pay taxes. Worst of all, it does the church no good at all because it gives the impression that these honours can be bought."

Joanna Bogle, of the Association of

Catholic Women, described the decision to honour Mr Murdoch as "absurd".

Speaking in a personal capacity, she said: "It sends out the message that you can make a living out of something - soft pornography - that is regarded by the Church as sinful, and yet you can be awarded for it. The Knighthood of St Gregory is supposed to be about honour and chivalry and and splendour. To give it to Murdoch is ridiculous and wrong."

Fr Kieran Conry, director of the Catholic Media Office, confirmed that some Catholics had been complaining.

"Some have said that this man is a purveyor of pornography and filth. The *News of the World* may not be everyone's idea of a good read, but in general, no one could say Mr Murdoch has done anything evil."

Ann Widdecombe, the Tory MP who converted to the Catholic church, said she was "astonished" at the award. But she added: "I hope that now ... he might feel obliged to make some of his newspapers conform to Catholic teachings. It is never too late for a sinner to repent."

News International said Mr Murdoch did not wish to comment.



They took the drink away from Fitz, the fags away from Patsy and stopped the men behaving badly. So whatever will the Americans do to Basil and Sybil?



Lost in translation: Not so *Absolutely Fabulous* (top) in the US without the drugs and drink, and *Cracker* (above) loses its hard edge when it becomes *Fitz*

By Paul McCann
Media Correspondent

BASIL would be livid. Fresh from taking the bad behaviour from *Men Behaving Badly*, excising the drinking, smoking, drugs and jokes from *Absolutely Fabulous*, American television has its heart set on ruining another British comedy classic.

Because CBS is planning a remake of *Fawlty Towers*.

The Seventies series is set to star American sit-com actor John Larroquette, who is best known in Britain for his part as a grasping lawyer in the Eighties comedy *Night Court*.

The pilot is yet to be made, but the omens are not good. Without the demented windmill that was Cleese's Basil Fawlty, without Prunella Scales's Sybil - "A laugh like someone machine-gunning a seal," according to Basil - and Andrew Sachs's innocent Manuel, the show looks likely to be less funny than a wet weekend in Torquay.

Despite once declaring that the show was so perfectly formed he would only make the 12 existing episodes, the format has been sold by John Cleese and his former wife Connie Booth, who wrote the series with him.

The new version will be made by USA Networks Studios and written by two writers who, rather worryingly, created a comedy called *Something So Right*. This was a comedy of manners about a couple with a number of previous marriages behind them.

Fawlty Towers has long been a bit on American television thanks to eternal repeats on Public Service Television and the cable channel Comedy Central. Twenty years after it was made it remains the BBC's best-selling comedy for overseas sales and every year appears in its top-ten best-selling programmes list.

It is not the first time the Americans have made an attempt on this piece of comedy history. In 1983 a short-lived series called *Amanda's*, which rather missed the point of the *Watership Down* title jokes, tried reversing the gender of the bad tempered hotelier.

The history of more recent comedy format acquisitions is not much better. Roseanne Barr bought the rights to *Absolutely Fabulous*, but was told it could never be allowed on air in America with so much drinking and smoking. The re-made clean version was called *High Society* and managed a meagre 13 episodes - which is about half a se-

ries in America - before being canned. The watered-down American version of *Men Behaving Badly* managed one and half series before being cancelled.

Not only comedies suffer when they cross the Atlantic. The lead in *Fitz*, the US version of *Cracker*, goes easy on the alcohol and gambling, and is never seen drawing on a cigarette, unlike the *Fitz* played by Robbie Coltrane.

"They like to buy our series ideas because it gives them an already-made product to put in front of a network, a star or a team of writers," says Colin Jarvis, head of format licensing at BBC Worldwide. "It gives producers a kind of short cut through the system."

Mr Jarvis denies that watering down British jokes is causing American producers problems. "Perhaps that was the case when *Men Behaving Badly* was put on too early for the subject matter," he says. "But *One Foot in the Grave* with Bill Cosby is doing well. And in the past *All in the Family* and *Sandford and Son*, which came from *Till Death us do Part* and *Sieptoe and Son*, did very well. I think it's just that it's a tougher market now and shows don't get long to prove they work."



Very British humour: If the Americans took the bad behaviour out of *Men Behaving Badly* (above), what will they do to *Fawlty Towers*?

Doctors who make cutting remarks called to account

By Jeremy Laurence
Health Editor

Doctors who make insulting remarks about patients on the operating table risk being found out when the general anaesthetic fails to work, researchers report today.

Patients who heard themselves described as fat, ugly or overweight later complained when they recovered from the anaesthetic that had rendered them immobile and incapable of speech but not asleep.

A study of 45 patients who reported being conscious while undergoing major surgery found half said they were struck by the personal nature of re-

marks made about their bodies, the disease, or the surgery itself.

Half the patients said they were able to see what was going on with some able to recognise things or faces.

Two thirds recalled conversations and the same proportion felt being touched. But although most tried to alert someone, all found themselves to be paralysed and none succeeded.

The study, reported in the *British Journal of Anaesthesia*, is the latest to describe the rare event of awareness under a general anaesthetic. About one in 500 patients regains some level of consciousness during an operation but in almost every

case they remain paralysed, unable to give any sign they are aware of what is going on.

Professor Dierk Schwender and colleagues of the Institute for Anaesthesiology, Munich, Germany, who found the patients by advertising for them, said that the feeling of helplessness was the most traumatic part of the experience for all of the patients.

"The feeling that they were unable to influence the situation was more important than the pain some of them said they suffered," Professor Schwender said.

Although the cases are extremely rare, awareness under anaesthesia is commonest dur-

ing caesarians, when doctors try to limit the amount of anaesthetic used to minimise the risk of harm to the baby, and during heart operations, when poor circulation means the anaesthetic may not reach the brain in sufficient quantities.

"We always prepare patients undergoing these operations and reassure them that we will talk to them all the time and watch out for any sign that they may be conscious. If you do that they are quite happy to accept it," Professor Schwender said. "One should treat patients always as patients, even when they are unconscious. It is when doctors fail to do that that problems occur."

Crowning glory for 'Lear' at Olivier theatre awards

By David Lister
Arts News Editor

IAN HOLM and Richard Eyre celebrated a double triumph for the National Theatre's production of *King Lear* when they both received Laurence Olivier Awards yesterday.

The best actor award went to Ian Holm for his towering performance, soon to be repeated on television. And Richard Eyre was named best director.

The two stars of the musical *Chicago*, Ute Lemper and Ruthie Henshall, were pitted against each other for the best actress in a musical award. Lemper won and in customary awards ceremony style immediately paid a tearful tribute to her co-star.

Zoe Wamaker was named best actress for her role in *Electra*, while Patrick Marber's comedy of contemporary sexual mores, *Closer*, won best play, beating two men he acknowledged as lifelong influences, Tom Stoppard and David Hare.

Ian Holm is one of many star names supporting the *Independent* and *National* on *Sunday's Save The Arts Campaign*. And, not surprisingly, at a time of continuing financial crisis in the arts, the awards ceremony at the Albery Theatre in London had a political flavour. Compere Clive Ander-

son, took a swipe at the Government for its arts funding record. He said it had been an eventful year for the arts with the opening of London's Globe Theatre showing audiences what it would have been like to visit a theatre in Shakespeare's day. And he added: "The new Labour Government showed us what arts funding must have been like in the Middle Ages."

When the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, took the stage, he countered: "Can I just say that the Middle Ages didn't last forever." He was not allowed the last word, though. Clive Anderson retorted: "We should be all right in three or four hundred years, then."

There was a significant remark from Mr Smith after Paul Daniel, music director at English National Opera, had won an award. Mr Smith, who a few months ago had caused alarm by indicating the ENO might have to move in to the Royal Opera House, said simply as he came on to the stage: "Long live the English National Opera," causing those present to believe that threat must have been rescinded.

Mr Smith also made a plea to retain one of Britain's most famous theatres, the Old Vic, as he paid tribute to the men who had kept it alive. He was presenting a special award to father and son Ed and David



Ute Lemper: Best actress in a musical

Mirvish, Canadian owners of the Old Vic, to mark their work in restoring and running the 180-year-old building.

The theatre closed its doors in December and is now up for sale. Mr Smith said: "Please don't rush into a disposal of the Old Vic and give all the rest of us a chance to come forward with good high-quality proposals for it to run as a theatre, with a vital role to play in London's life."

Other awards included: Best actor in a musical - Philip Quast in *The Fire*; Best new musical - *Beauty and the Beast*; Best theatre choreographer - Simon McBurney in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*; Best set designer - Tim Goodchild for *Three Hours After Marriage*; Best performance in a supporting role - Sarah Woodward in *Tom & Jerry*; Best supporting performance in a musical - James Dreyfus in *Lady in the Dark*; Best new dance production - *L'Allegro, Il Penseroso Ed Il Moderato* by Mark Morris Dance

Try voicemail for faxes free for two months.

Faxminder is like a homing device for faxes. A single number is assigned to you, not to any particular fax machine.

Which means you can pick up your faxes from any machine you like.

That's because, no matter where you are in the world, any fax sent to your Faxminder number is stored confidentially until you're ready to use it.

So wherever you find a fax machine,

your faxes can find you. Day or night.

Too good to be true? Well, try it for yourself - we'll give you two months free rental. And eight weeks later you can simply sign up or sign off.

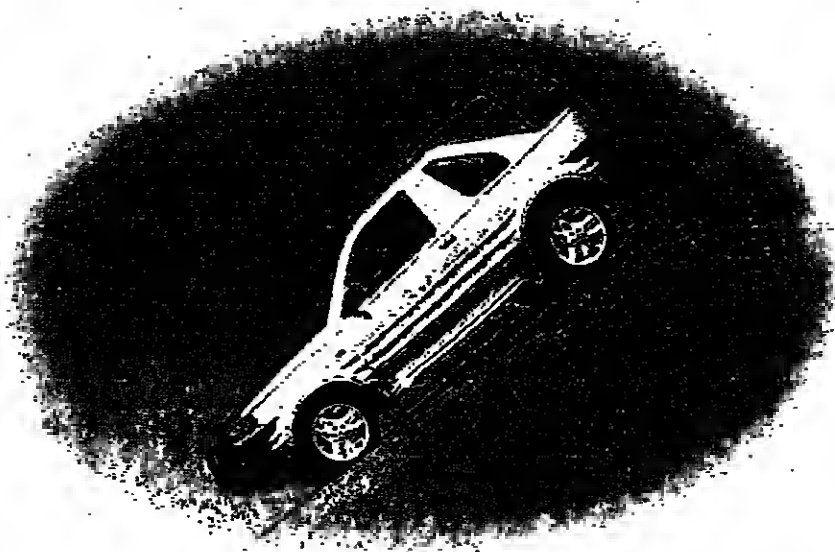
Freefone 0800 800855

for a free two month trial.

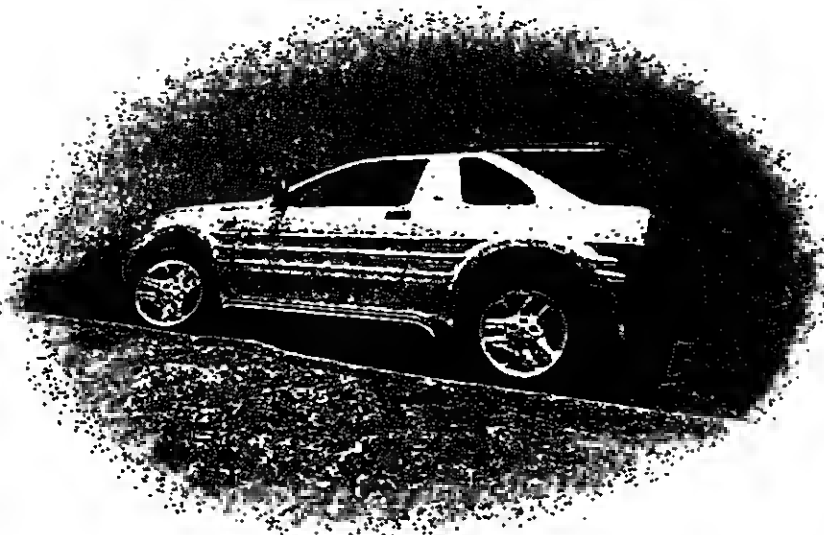
www.faxminder.co.uk

FREE USE TERMS: The connection fee of £25.00 inc. VAT and the first two month rental are free. This special offer is valid on subscriptions from 26/01/98 to 25/04/98. Monthly rental after the trial period is £5.99 inc. VAT. Calls to Faxminder may not be available from a small number of other countries both in the UK and overseas and some private earthline providers. Calls to Faxminder are charged at BT's "N" rate. Calls to Faxminder from non BT fixed lines and from mobile phones will be charged at the appropriate price levied by the network operator. Calls to your Faxminder number are charged at Local rate within the UK. There are additional charges for international use and for receiving faxes abroad. You must inform us 7 days prior to the end of the trial period if you wish to stop using Faxminder. If you do not, monthly rental will become automatically payable from month 3. For quality control purposes we may from time to time randomly tape calls.

Drive responsibly off-road.



NO PROBLEM.



DITTO.



DITTO.

**WHATCAR?
CAR
OF THE
YEAR
WINNER 1998**

DITTO.



Winner of 'What Car?' Car of the Year as well as Best Off-Roader 1998. Freelander. Made by Land Rover. From £15,995. Call 0800 110 110 or visit www.landrover.co.uk

Mart

Doc
help

Dome

Organisers of the Millennium Dome Lottery unveiled the list of winners and experts who will advise them on how to use the money. The winners include the charity Versus Cancer, the comedy group 'The 11th Hour', the 'Lions Group', the children's charity 'Flora's Foundation' and film producer Lord Putnam. Experts from the arts, science and business sectors will also be advising the winners.

The team, known as the Creative Review Group, will be responsible for advising on the 'relevance, quality, entertainment, educational potential' of the structure. New Millennium Experience Company chief executive Jennie Phipps said: 'We are delighted that

Private
from

Call 08
Prime Health

كلنا من الأصل

Martha Gellhorn, legend of war reporting, dies



She was one of the most distinguished voices of a bloody and turbulent century, writes Rupert Cornwell



Martha Gellhorn with Ernest Hemingway, whom she met in 1936, and at her home (above left)

Photographs: Robert Capa, Ian Berry/Magnum

PRIVILEGE TO BE A FRIEND

One of the greatest privileges of my life was to have been Martha Gellhorn's friend.

Her accomplishments as a journalist have been well documented and rightly celebrated — Martha hungered after the truth and loathed social injustice. But as a friend she was without parallel, a pillar of support and a model of courage.

If you felt your life was falling apart, Martha could always be counted upon for inspiration. When my marriage was failing she sent me a typically stern, two-line note. A woman alone has nothing to be ashamed of, she said, and to be a woman alone is far, far better than to be a woman trapped in a loveless marriage.

Martha herself had experienced two failed marriages, the first, of course, to Ernest Hemingway. She adored the company of clever young men and despised those she considered simpering fools. (Martha suffered fools very, very badly.) To be in her company was to be elevated into a special, rarefied world, one where love and loyalty were all.

I loved her like a mother and respected her like no other. I will miss her more than any words can say.

— Rosie Boycott

Martha Gellhorn, who died in London at the weekend, aged 89, was not so much a woman war reporter as one of the very greatest correspondents to cover the conflicts of this bloodiest and most violent of centuries.

This American who made London her final home practised journalism for the best part of 60 years, from the end of the 1920s to what she would call her "last piece of war reporting", from South Wales, on the doomed British miners' strike of 1984 and 1985. In between, she covered wars from Spain to Finland, China and Java, and Europe and — much later — the Arab-

Israeli Six Day War and Vietnam. Somehow too, she found time to produce a dozen novels and collections of short stories, as well as four volumes of memoirs.

Yes, a part of her fame was owed to marriage (her second) with Ernest Hemingway, whom she had met in Key West in 1936. But only a small part. Gellhorn followed him to Madrid, and from there covered the Spanish Civil War for *Colliers Weekly*. War's long separations and Hemingway's own idiosyncracies broke the relationship, and they divorced in 1946. But however impossible his ways, the writer helped Gell-

horn learn her craft and distil her passion. She once declared she could not abide "all that objectivity shi". The reporter's duty, she believed, was to "limit yourself to what you see or hear, and not suppress or invent". Which is of course in a sense subjectiveness — but also as good a definition of journalistic objectivity, under real or extreme emotional fire, as can be found.

Gellhorn was among those who first conveyed the atrocities of Nazism to the world. "Behind the barbed wire and the electric fence," she wrote of just-liberated Dachau, "the skeletons sat in the sun and searched themselves for lice. They have no age and no faces... they watched us but they did not move. No expression shows on a face that is only yellowish, stubbly skin stretched across bone."

Those who have witnessed such depravity can never thereafter be blind to the injustices of life. Gellhorn was a radical, who instinctively took the side of the disadvantaged and unprotected — a special *bête noire* in later life was Margaret Thatcher and her "evil revolution" that stoked hatred of the working class. A lifetime of observation had taught her that

the disadvantaged and unprotected are usually the first victims of war. Martha Gellhorn told it like it was.

To later generations of women war reporters, she was inspiration and a role model. Among her female contemporaries only Clare Hollingworth, who from the Polish-German border in 1939 scooped the Foreign Office on the outbreak of the Second World War, came close. Oriana Fallaci, the BBC's Kate Adie, Carole Walker and Sue Lloyd Roberts, and now Christiane Amanpour of CNN, are among her professional descendants.

By the end, her sight had almost gone and her physical powers were ebbing. But visitors to her top-floor flat in Cadogan Square, with its views over the rooftops of the great museums of Kensington, found her mental sharpness and commitment as fierce as ever. And in the months before she died, she drew renewed enthusiasm from the election of a Labour Government pledged to an "ethical foreign policy". In a sense, that had been Gellhorn's objective, from behind a typewriter, every day of her professional life. **Obituary, page 18; Comment, page 17.**

Doctors to join with police to help crack paedophile rings

By Colin Brown
Chief Political Correspondent

SPECIALIST TEAMS of police and social workers could be set up to crack paedophile rings — a plan contained in a government consultation paper to be published today which will spark a fresh national debate about how child abuse should be tackled.

The Green Paper, to be unveiled by health minister Paul Boateng, will say that child prostitution should be targeted by social services and police, and it will raise the possibility of a national register for people suspected but not convicted of child abuse.

offences. Family doctors will also be given fresh guidance to override their professional codes of patient confidentiality in order to alert social workers and the police where they are presented with evidence of child abuse.

Child deaths could also be looked at more closely as part of the review of child abuse in what amounts to the most comprehensive consultation exercise for years mounted by the Government to prevent harm to children.

The Green Paper does not rule out legislation, but seeks to reinforce the action already being taken by agencies to

tackle child abuse by improving co-ordination, the exchange of information, and issuing tougher guidelines to professionals in the front line. It says that investigating paedophile networks is complex, and time-consuming, and the time may have come to establish specialist teams of police and social workers to investigate abuse.

It points out that since the last major overhaul of the guidance in 1991, information about the nature of child abuse has increased substantially.

There were 967 cases over the past four years — an average of 242 cases a year — falling into three main categories: rit-

ual abuse, paedophile networks and family abuse. Investigations looked into claims of occult abuse of children, but found little evidence for its existence.

The Green Paper says the Government recognises that organised abuse of children does occur sometimes within institutions such as residential homes or schools, involving child pornography and it has a "damaging and traumatic" effect on the victims.

It says that effective and clear procedures are needed for tackling organised child abuse and asks: "Is there a need for specialist teams?"

On family doctors, it says that guidance issued since the

Department of Health document *Working Together* in 1991 made clear that child abuse was one of the exceptional circumstances in which disclosure of information to agencies, such as social services, could be justified in order to safeguard the interests of the child. Greater emphasis is now being placed on that guidance.

Doctors have become increasingly uneasy about the expansion of their "policing" role. A BMA source said: "GPs are facing policing tasks being imposed on them. It is happening in a number of areas, from drinkers to drivers and now child abuse. They think it's unfair."

It raises difficult issues for health professionals in breaking a confidence about families for whom they have to provide health care. However, it is unlikely that GPs will wish to be seen refusing to help the community in which they live to stop child abuse. The need for better co-ordination between agencies has been underlined repeatedly in reports on successive child abuse scandals.

The professor at the centre of a controversial project involving the clandestine filming of child abuse by parents in hospital said in October that more help was needed from family doctors in alerting the authorities to abuse.

Boy hurt in sunroof horror

A TRIP for a Valentine's day gift almost ended in tragedy when a three-year-old boy was nearly choked to death by a car sunroof. The toddler's father left the boy and an 18-month-old baby strapped in the back of the car while he went into a florist's on Friday.

But when he returned to his car, at Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, he found his son trapped in the roof. The boy twice accidentally tripped the sunroof control switch — locking it against his neck and almost killing him.

But his father, who is trained in first aid, released his son, gave him the kiss of life and heart massage and eventually brought him round. He was described as being in a "comfortable" condition yesterday at Durham's Dryburn Hospital.

Call to scrap fraud juries

JURIES could be scrapped for complex fraud trials, under government proposals announced yesterday. The move follows a series of high-profile cases, such as the Bine Arrow trial, that have collapsed at huge expense. But John Wadham, director of civil liberties group Liberty, said: "The right to trial by jury is a fundamental part of our constitution and is the only democratic element in a criminal justice system."

Welsh Assembly site

THE battle to provide a home for the planned Welsh Assembly is now a two-horse race between Cardiff and Swansea, the Government said yesterday. The Welsh Secretary, Ron Davies, said he had received 14 proposals from developers and 10 from local authorities, but confirmed that the two cities had emerged as the only realistic sites for the building.

Supermarket 'embargo'

The Irish government accused British supermarkets yesterday of operating an embargo on Irish beef sales in the UK worth £200m a year. The Republic's agriculture minister, Joe Walsh, made a formal protest in Brussels about British beef marketing tactics which he said were in breach of the EU treaty.

Dome organisers send their First XI out to bat

Organisers of the Millennium Dome yesterday unveiled the line-up of celebrities and experts who will advise them on what should go inside the controversial exhibition. Members of the committee, dubbed the "Litmus Group", range from the children's entertainer Floella Benjamin and film producer Lord Putnam to experts from the arts, sciences and broadcasting.

The team, known as the Creative Review Group, will be responsible for advising organisers on the "coherence, quality, entertainment and educational potential" of plans for the structure. New Millennium Experience Company chief executive Jennie Page said: "We are delighted that ...



Sounding the millennium with good advice: Michael Grade (left), Lord Rogers, Floella Benjamin and Lord Putnam

we can call on the best in the business in terms of making sure our creative ideas have genuine popular appeal at the same

time as intellectual bite." The group, whose members are unpaid, has so far met three times, and is expected to meet on a monthly basis until the Dome opens in 2000.

The team includes:
■ Floella Benjamin - children's TV presenter and actress.
■ Sir Neil Cossons - director of the Science Museum.
■ Professor Christopher Frayling - rector, Royal College of Art.
■ Simon Jenkins - millennium commissioner and newspaper columnist.
■ Michael Jolly - chairman and chief executive of The Tus-

sauds Group.
■ Lord Putnam - chairman of Enigma Productions.
■ John Sorell - chairman, the Design Council.
■ Lord Rogers - Dome architect.
■ Mike Davies - Millennium project director at the Richard Rogers Partnership.
■ Michael Grade - former head of Channel Four, chairman of First Leisure Corporation.
■ Ruth Mackenzie - general director of Scottish Opera.
Mr Grade and Ms Mackenzie are also members of the NMEC board. Ms Page said the group was an informal

arrangement and more members were likely to be added. She said the team would be reviewing plans for all areas of the exhibition. Other experts are also being called in as "witnesses" to advise on specific attractions or services. Among these will be the panel of children to give a young person's view. The BBC's Director of Television, Alan Yentob, is also being brought in to advise on the broadcasting potential of the opening night of the Dome and the year-long exhibition. Plans so far are for the BBC to broadcast the opening on 31 December 1999. The BBC is

also working with the NMEC to create the Millennium Memory Bank of oral histories which will form one feature of the exhibition.

Fears that BT was about to withdraw £12m sponsorship were dismissed yesterday by Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, who told the Commons prospects for private sector investment in the £750m project remained strong. He said he had spoken to Sir Peter Bonfield, chief executive of BT, who had said: "No, we are certainly not going to pull out." The reason why the company was not going to pull out, Mr Mandelson said, was because BT was not "a company of the old school, of the old Britain, unconfident and unambitious" — but rather a "company of the future — confident and vibrant — like the new Britain".

The question session produced so much criticism that Barry Sheerman, a Labour supporter of the scheme, later protested to the Speaker about the lack of balance in the questions asked. Among critics, Dennis Skinner asked whether "Heseltine's Folly" had passed the point of no return at which the money could be spent instead on a millennium hospital.

Congratulations. You've just spotted a low cost mortgage.

- It's easy to transfer.
- Our mortgage rate is 8.2% APR variable.
- Call us now for more details.



0181 649 9099 LONDON 0161 831 9099 MANCHESTER 0141 221 9099 GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. IND183

Subject to status. Security required. Rates correct as 22/98. Subject to variation. Written quotations on request. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Calls recorded and randomly monitored. Direct Line and the red phone are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc, used with its permission.

Private health cover from 44p a day.

Call 0800 77 99 55 to find out more.

Prime Health

Ref M10537NG

Ban smoking in public, say asthma campaigners

By Jeremy Laurance
Health Editor

SMOKING should be banned in all public places to protect the 17,000 children admitted each year to hospital because of the effects of other people's tobacco smoke, the National Asthma Campaign says today.

Eight out of ten asthma sufferers are affected by passive smoking and in many the symptoms can be severe. In a new policy paper, the campaign says smoking should be banned not only in pubs and restaurants

but anywhere where the public, especially children, may congregate including parks, open spaces and shopping centres as well as offices and buildings.

Helen Donohoe, author of the paper "No Smoke Without Asthma", said some effects of smoking - as a cause of lung cancer, for example - were slow to show up, but the effects on asthma sufferers were immediate. "Someone with asthma breathing in cigarette smoke is likely, minutes later, to have an asthma attack or breathing difficulties," she said.

Many smokers were unaware of the impact their habit had. "Our position is that people with asthma should have the freedom and independence to take control of their lives. With passive smoking that control is lost."

Jane Tebbutt, a mother of three children with asthma, said they reached for their inhalers within 20 minutes of being smoked over to combat wheezing and tightness in the chest. "As a family our social life is dictated by whether the environment is smoke-free or not. We very rarely go any-

where where there is a chance people will be smoking."

David Cunningham, a 27-year-old marathon runner, keeps his asthma well controlled but has to avoid tobacco smoke. "I always have to ask for non-smoking areas when I go out. Whilst I can put up with smoke - I won't let it drive me out of a restaurant for example - it does make me uncomfortable."

Public attitudes against smoking are hardening. An opinion poll conducted last month among 1,200 adults found al-

most two-thirds favoured a smoking ban in restaurants and bars and nearly three-quarters supported a ban on smoking in the workplace.

Last week, a survey of 500 young people aged 11-15, conducted for the Department of Health, found three-quarters favoured a ban on smoking in public places and wanted the legal age for buying cigarettes raised from 16 to 18. Nine-tenths of six per cent said they did not consider smoking to be "cool" and 30 per cent considered it a killer and a health hazard. Yet

smoking among children rises from less than 1 per cent at age 11 to 33 per cent at age 15.

In addition to a ban on smoking in public places, the National Asthma Campaign is calling for a ban on all tobacco advertising, sponsorship and promotion, a campaign to highlight the risks of smoking in pregnancy and a rise in tax on tobacco to the maximum allowed under EU law.

A spokeswoman said: "People with asthma should have the right to breathe clean air. Without effective government action that will never happen."

Briton stabbed to death on Kenya safari holiday

A RETIRED British police officer was fatally stabbed in front of his wife as he grappled with two robbers while on safari in Kenya.

Roy Chivers, 51, a former detective constable with the Metropolitan Police's Directorate of Intelligence, was knifed in the chest as he struggled against two robbers stealing his cameras.

Mr Chivers, a father of two from Orpington, Kent, was visiting Kenya for the first time. He was on a two-week holiday with his wife, Sandra, 50, at the exclusive Aberdare Country Club, 140 miles north of the capital Nairobi.

He was attacked after refusing to hand over his video camera.

Guests at the luxury safari camp found Mr Chivers covered

in blood being cradled by his wife.

They were flown to Nairobi hospital where Mr Chivers suffered a cardiac arrest and died.

Mrs Chivers also suffered a cut to the hand as she struggled to protect her husband from the vicious attack on Sunday.

Scotland Yard said Mr Chivers joined the Metropolitan Police in May 1966 when he was 19. In August 1979 he moved to the Directorate of Intelligence as a surveillance officer where he continued until he had completed his 30 years' service.

A senior colleague at Scotland Yard, Detective Inspector Sheridan said: "Roy Chivers' death came as a great shock to everybody... He will be greatly missed."

At Mr and Mrs Chivers'

home in Clay Wood Close, Orpington, family friend David Walters was comforting their children Steven, 20, and Helen, aged 23.

Mr Walters said: "The family are totally and utterly, utterly devastated. That is all I can say at the moment."

Mr Walters, himself a constable in the Met, was close to tears as he remembered the friend he had known for almost two decades.

"He was just, you know, a lovely bloke. We used to have some laughs. He'd got a good sense of humour."

"We have been on holiday with him. We have been friends since we moved here 19 years ago. The kids have grown up together."

Mr Walters said Helen Chivers was intending to fly to

Nairobi accompanied by Mrs Chivers' father, Norman, last night, but Steven was unable to travel because there were problems with his passport.

"I don't know when they'll be coming back, the tickets are open-ended," he said.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Office in London is warning tourists to use their "common sense" when visiting Kenya.

A spokesman said: "We are appalled by this senseless murder. Our thoughts are with the family..."

"We would recommend that people take a common-sense approach when travelling to Kenya. Be aware when you are in possession of valuables."

"However, we don't wish to single out Kenya as a particularly troublesome spot - we don't want to panic people."

Holiday airline delays getting worse

By Randeep Ramesh
Transport Correspondent

The world may be becoming a smaller place but the wait to get anywhere is getting worse. Those heading off to foreign climes, according to official figures released yesterday, face lengthening airport delays.

The Air Transport Users Council (ATUC), which aims to look after passengers' interests, reported some charter airlines operated over 25 per cent of their summer 1997 flights more than an hour late.

Such delays were "unacceptable" said Ian Hamer, the council's chairman, and he admonished poor-performing airlines - saying they must "do better".

Of charter flights monitored in summer 1997, 18 per cent were more than an hour late either arriving at or departing from nine UK airports. The av-



badly were many household names. A quarter of Caledonian Airways flights ran an hour late.

Only fractionally better were Airtours and Air 2000. More than 20 per cent of their summer flights departed more than 60 minutes after their scheduled slots.

Airtours' average delay was 46 minutes, compared with 39 minutes in summer 1996. Air 2000 had a 39-minute average delay compared with 22 minutes the previous summer.

Rick Conley, chief executive of Caledonian Airways - which carried 1.5 million passengers last year, said that "changes have been put in place since last year". The airline will also have an extra four aircraft to deal with the extra demand this summer.

The title of "worst-performing carrier" last summer went to Nordic European Air-

lines. Travellers faced an average delay of 86 minutes. More than one in three of its flights was more than an hour late.

Best performer was Pegasus with just 5 per cent of flights more than one hour late and average delays of 14 minutes.

The ATUC says that the league tables encourage operators to improve performance. Mr Hamer singled Monarch as one of the few carriers to reduce delays compared with summer 1996.

"Monarch has shown what airlines can do and we are now looking to those carriers that are propping up the bottom of the [delays] table to improve their service to their passengers," he said.

The figures relate to statistics collected on flights at Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Luton, Manchester, and Newcastle airports.

Take a trip to sunny Afghanistan

AFGHANISTAN, the country at the top of the Foreign Office danger list, could soon be welcoming British tourists once more. A small adventure travel company has begun canvassing for clients for an "exploratory tour" of the strife-torn country. Consular staff at the Foreign Office have roundly condemned the move, but the organiser says the plan is simply responding to demand.

The tour is being proposed by Hinterland Travel, based in Surrey. Its director, Geoff Hann, has been running overland trips since 1969, initially catering for travellers on the "hippie trail" to the East.

Mr Hann last visited Afghanistan 15 years ago, after the Soviet invasion but before the country's disintegration into civil war. He feels the time is now right to return. "I'm aching to go again. Last November I met a couple of Germans who had just come back. They had no problems at all."

The holiday is likely to last two weeks, entering the country overland from Pakistan instead of flying in to the capital, Kabul. It will use local transport rather than an overland vehicle. Mr Hann plans a group of around five people - "safety in numbers, but not too large" - but warns people he takes no responsibility for their welfare.

The Foreign Office yesterday condemned the plan as "foolhardy". British travellers should not visit Afghanistan under any circumstances, a spokesman said, and added: "The place is in a total state of anarchy."



Water works: Liping Zhang rehearsing for the title role in *Madam Butterfly* at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday in a new production of Puccini's opera which will see the arena flooded to create a Japanese garden. Photograph: Rul Xavier

Guidelines on unruly pupils

By Judith Judd
Education Editor

TEACHERS may push and pull pupils to stop them fighting or vandalising property but they should only twist their arms and trip them up in exceptional cases.

Guidelines issued by the Government yesterday detail how teachers may use reasonable force to restrain pupils. They aim to end the belief by many teachers that even touching pupils may lead to legal ac-

tion. Instead, teachers are told they may use physical restraint not only if a pupil is likely to injure others but also if he or she refuses persistently to leave the classroom. Other examples of cases where teachers may use reasonable force include:

- pupils who run along a corridor in a way likely to cause accidents;
- serious disruptive behaviour in class;
- pupils who are at risk because they try to run away from school.

Only in the most exceptional circumstances should teachers take action which might injure, such as slapping or punching, holding a pupil round the neck, twisting or forcing limbs against a joint, tripping up pupils or holding them by the hair. Usually, restraint would involve touching, holding, pushing, pulling, leading a pupil by the arm or leading them away by putting a hand in the centre of the back. But teachers should not try to tackle big, hurly pupils who may turn violent.

A little can mean so much

When you are weary of pain and fearful of the unknown, little things can mean so much. At St Joseph's Hospice, we are dedicated to doing everything within our power to give comfort, support and peace of mind to those with terminal illnesses and their loved ones. We sincerely thank all of you who have given to generously in the past and look forward to your continuing support. Every donation, however small, makes a difference and is greatly appreciated by the Sisters and those in their care.

St Joseph's Hospice
MADEIRA LONDON E1 6SA
(020 7463 2525)

LOWEST RATE IN THE UK

6.9%

APR
FIXED UNTIL
JANUARY 1999

Why pay more?



Why pay interest rates of 20% or more on your credit cards when you could pay the UK's lowest rate - 6.9% APR FIXED - with a Capital One VISA card? And there's No Annual Fee!

Just transfer your balance from your high interest cards to our low 6.9% APR Capital One VISA card and you could **SAVE up to £266** in your first year*. And after January 1999 you'll only pay the low rate of 17.9% APR variable.

The Capital One VISA card is accepted wherever you see the VISA sign, and you don't need to bank with us. Capital One is one of the oldest established credit card businesses in the world with over 10 million customers world-wide.

So why not start saving money today? Just give us a call now on **0800 66 9000**. FREE to apply for your 6.9% APR FIXED Capital One VISA card or request a FREE information pack.

NO ANNUAL FEE



CALL FREE
0800 66 9000

AND QUOTE 1474-701 TO APPLY OR REQUEST A FREE INFORMATION PACK

Capital One
Capital One Bank, Card Services, PO Box 317,
Northampton, NN2 2WD.

All applicants must be aged 18 or over and resident in the UK. Credit is available subject to status and conditions. If your application is accepted, we will set a credit limit. If you want to transfer a balance from another credit card, we will provide an interest-free credit limit. Your Capital One credit card will have a 6.9% APR for purchases and for balances transferred from other credit cards until January 1999. Monthly Statement and 17.9% APR variable thereafter. For cash advances from the Capital One VISA card, the APR is 17.9% APR variable. Charges and APRs are variable for cash advances from the Capital One VISA card. For purchases and for balances transferred from other credit cards, the APR is 6.9% APR fixed until January 1999 and variable thereafter. Competitive interest rates and APRs are shown as at 01/12/97. Variable interest rates are tied to the UK Consumer Bank Rate. As of 11/11/97 this Bank Rate was 7.25%. If there is a change in the Bank Rate after this date, APRs will vary accordingly. The savings calculator assumes your application is received by 20/04/98. A written quotation is available on request. Offer closes 20/04/98. To help improve our service, we may record your call to and from Capital One Bank. This service is based on a sample of calls. Please do not call if you are not happy to be recorded. Different cards have different terms, conditions and benefits. Please refer to the terms and conditions of the Capital One VISA card.

THE BEST AND
THE WORST

THE worst beaches were: **Porthpean** near St Austell in Cornwall (52 items of rubbish per metre); **Hoylake, Beach Road**, on the top of the Wirral (27 per metre); **Oxwich Bay** in Swansea (23.64 items per metre); **Jennycliff**, near Plymouth, Devon (21.5 per metre); **Stone Jetty**, at Morecambe, in Lancashire (21.13 per metre) and **East Sands**, North Queensferry in Fife (20.2 per metre). The best beach was at **Sennen Cove**, the nearest beach to Land's End in Cornwall, with 0.04 items of rubbish per metre. The second best beach was found at **Sandways**, Kingsand (0.08 per metre) which is on the other side of Plymouth from Jennycliff – the fourth worst beach. Third best was **Waxham**, north of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (0.08 items per metre), with **Rhyl East** in North Wales taking fourth place (0.10 per metre). **Portmuck Harbour**, at Larne, Co Antrim in Northern Ireland was the fifth cleanest beach in the survey, with 0.10 pieces of rubbish per metre.



Clean sweep: Children playing on the beach at Sennen Cove in Cornwall, which was found to be the cleanest beach in Britain

Photograph: David Swanborough

British pubs
'turning into
Disneyesque
travesties'

TOO many pub-goers are being subjected to "Disneyesque travesties" of Irish and Victorian pubs, according to judges of a scheme to find Britain's top drinking holes. In a savage attack on design standards, competition judges hit out yesterday at an overabundance of brass and hric-a-brac brought in at the expense of quality and imagination.

They refused to award prizes in two categories of the English Heritage/Campaign for Real Ale Pub Design competition. Conservation and New-Build, saying standards were so low that none of the pubs warranted the accolade. Steven Parissien wrote in the judges' report: "A depressingly large proportion of the entries were bedecked with over-familiar 'heritage' paraphernalia – Disneyesque travesties straight out of the catalogue rather than the back of the attic."

Dismissing them as "grotesque parodies" of pubs from the 1890s, he said most Victorian interiors were as "authentic as Dick Van Dyke's cockney accent".

Much of the £10m spent on revamping pubs in 1997 appeared to have been wasted on "heavy-handed" alterations to keep up with the latest marketing theme rather than celebrating the importance of individual buildings.

It is the first time in the competition's 10 year history that a winner has not been found for the Conservation award, although the New Build prize has been given out only once.

The judges said it was up to pub owners, managers and architects to raise standards, but also called on local authority planners to exercise greater control over renovations. However, it was not all bad news for drinkers. The Bread and Roses, Clapham, south London, run by the Workers Beer Company, won the Best Refurbishment Award for its transformation from a rundown community pub into a hostelry "with attitude" with no sign of "plagiarism, fakes and boring repetition".

The Conversion to Pub Use award went to Frazer's Bar in Edinburgh, housed in the former offices of the Royal Bank of Scotland, described as having an "art deco yet unmistakably contemporary feel".

Judges said there was a trend towards converting banks to pubs or restaurants, as a number of banking chains sold off town-centre premises.

Beaches drowning in sea of rubbish

By Rosa Prince

BRITAIN'S beaches are drowning under a sea of rubbish including condoms, syringes and sanitary products. Volunteers for the annual Beachwatch survey of Britain's beaches, run by *Reader's Digest* and the Marine Conservation Society, found an average of 1,482 pieces of waste per kilometre of beach; a 5 per cent increase on 1996.

At the worst beach, Porthpean in Cornwall, an average of 52 items of rubbish

were found per metre of sand, including 225 sanitary items in a 25-metre area. Most of the rubbish was left behind by beachgoers who now make 10 million day-trips to the coast a year. Other waste came from shipping, fishing and sewage.

The litter had an international aspect with rubbish from 16 countries found on the 210 beaches surveyed, presumably dropped from boats.

Among the debris were an omelette from China, a carton of apple juice from Poland and an energy drink from New

Zealand. There were also fridges, a glass eye and medical waste including a drip feed bag.

Beachwatch '97 was carried out by nearly 2,500 volunteers. Altogether they found 17,053 crisp and sweet packets, 8,064 drink cans and 8,124 cigarette stubs.

Medical and sanitary waste were a prominent feature. They included 215 syringes, 458 condoms and 16,467 cotton bud sticks. Cotton buds, which are too small to be filtered out during sewage treatment, formed the bulk of sanitary waste.

The volunteers also found 538 balloons, 478 shoes and 26 dead animals.

More than 50 per cent of the litter was plastic. Susannah Hickling, *Reader's Digest* environment editor, said: "Plastic is cheap to produce, easy to use and easy to throw away. But what people don't realise is that it ends up bobbing on our seas and washed up on our beaches – an appalling non-biodegradable legacy for future generations."

Samantha Pollard, conservation officer at the Marine Conservation Society, said:

"Ships must stop dumping overboard and individuals must not drop litter, or flush away plastic bathroom waste."

Rubbish, particularly fishing lines and ropes can cause animals and birds to become entangled. Wildlife can also be poisoned or choked by eating litter such as plastic.

Beachwatch '97 revealed that Wales had the dirtiest beaches in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland the best. Scotland and the Channel Islands were slightly better than average.



CLEVER CARS FROM JAPAN.

DAIHATSU

Five foot
nothing
in her
bare feet.Ten
foot tall
in her
Terios.

The new Daihatsu Terios. All the high rise visibility of an off-roader, with all the compactness and manoeuvrability of a Ford Fiesta. Complete with power steering, full-time four wheel drive, side impact bars, driver's airbag, central locking, stereo radio cassette with removable fascia and a 3 year unlimited mileage warranty. All from just £12,200 on the road. Call 0800 618 618 for details. **THE NEW TERIOS. A SMALL CAR TO LOOK UP TO.**

Car featured Terios + from £14,000 on the road. Prices are correct at time of going to press and include VAT, delivery, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. Ref: AN1702

Hague's reforms jar with the faithful

By Fran Abrams
Political Correspondent

WILLIAM Hague relaunched his party yesterday, claiming the Tories had modernised more in the past eight months than Labour had done in 18 years. But even as he declared "the most radical reforms since the time of Disraeli", there was some evidence of dissent over the changes. As one observer put it, Mr Hague emerged looking more like Michael Foot than Tony Blair.

Constituency associations are strongly opposed to plans for a Conservative Women's Network, according to the results of an internal survey. Nor do they like the idea of a national membership database, or a new area framework with smaller groups of constituencies.

Announcing the changes yesterday, Mr Hague said: "These reforms are not just mine; they belong to the hundreds of thousands of party members from all over the country who have taken part in meetings and ballots and debates on reform since last summer."

In fact, it became clear that the party dropped plans to

ensure that a quarter of interviewees in candidate selections were women after they were opposed by members. Only one-third of members supported them.

Only 15 per cent of associations strongly agreed with a programme of encouragement for women candidates, and 15 per cent strongly supported the idea of a women's network, while more than one-third disagreed with it.

The national membership database had more support, though only four in 10 strongly supported it. A new area framework for the party was supported strongly by one-third of local parties.

Other major reforms announced by Mr Hague included the ending of foreign donations, which have formed a significant part of the Conservatives' funding to the past. He added that he would comply with the recommendations of the Neill Committee which is currently looking at the issue, but donations over £5,000 would also be published.

For the first time, party members will be given a chance to vote on policies for the next gen-



Changing times: William Hague at yesterday's launch of *The Fresh Future* package, which he hopes will breathe new life into the Tory party

eral election in a ballot. They will also vote in a ballot on a single European currency though when this will happen has not been decided. New party leaders will be elected by a ballot of members, though old leaders will still only be unseated by a vote among MPs.

The Young Conservatives, Conservative Students and

Conservative Graduates will all be replaced by a single organisation, Conservative Future. The Conservative Women's Network will aim to ensure that more women are elected to Parliament in future.

There will also be a management board, with one-third of members elected by a national convention of mem-

bers, and a new disciplinary panel to deal with cases of misconduct by MPs.

In a move with strong echoes of new Labour, Mr Hague descended a staircase in London's Atrium restaurant to the strains of "Spirit of the Future" from "Millennium" by Richard Harvey. Delivered in front of a purple backdrop, his

reform document was titled *The Fresh Future*.

Some sections of the party remained unimpressed, though. Aidan Rankin, secretary of the newly-formed Conservative Democratic Movement, said the party was still not listening enough to its members.

"Although the party is imitating the new Labour strate-

gy, in reality it is more like old Labour. There is still a 'them and us' atmosphere. It looks in many ways as if one member, one vote for the leader is an excuse to press conformity on the rest of the party and to centralise power," he said.

The trade minister, Barbara Roche, claimed the Tories were still less democratic.

Ministers toughen rules on job cuts

By Barrie Clement
Labour Editor

MINISTERS yesterday proposed much tougher redundancy laws which lawyers believe will lead management to "think twice" before getting rid of employees.

This summer new legislation is expected to introduce "clear rules" making it more difficult for companies to avoid consulting their workers in cases of "downsizing", or where an undertaking is transferred from one employer to another.

Proposals tabled by Ian McCartney, the trade and industry minister, will also remove the ability of employers to "adjust the number and timing" of redundancies to get round the law. Mr McCartney intends removing a threshold relieving employers of obligations where fewer than 20 job losses are planned within a 90-day period.

The minister will attempt to ensure that unions are part of the consultation process where they are recognised. Where there is no union, more stringent regulations are envisaged aimed at ensuring that employees' representatives are properly elected and independent.

Mr McCartney proposes higher compensation for workers who have not been properly informed of employers' plans. They will receive the equivalent of 90 days' pay (nearly 13 weeks) instead of four weeks in many cases at the moment.

John McMullen, employment law partner at solicitors Finest Curtis, a leading firm which specialises in advising employers, said companies would have to bear in mind the cost of trimming the workforce after the new regulations, tabled to ensure Britain complies with European Union law, came into force. "It could make employers think twice about redundancies," he said.

John Monks, TUC general secretary, said the plans would give workers rights denied them by the previous government.

Labour under attack over benefit changes and welfare-to-work plan

By Fran Abrams

MINISTERS were under attack from two sides last night over plans to reform benefits and get the unemployed back to work.

As a group of campaigners for the disabled met Harriet Harman, the Secretary of State for Social Security, a Labour-supporting record company ex-

ecutive attacked the government's Welfare to Work scheme for stifling budding musicians.

Alan McGee, head of Creation records and a member of the Government's Creative Industries Task Force, said the programme was "incredibly naive" and was also unworkable for people hoping to be musicians.

The new system would force

ambitious young musicians to take jobs which would prevent them from pursuing their musical goals, he said.

"You cannot be promoting this 'Cool Britannia' image that the Government's promoting - which is fair enough because it's never been better for 20 or 30 years - and then put the next generation of Noel Gallaghers

and Primal Scream singer Bobby Gillespie into jobs doing plumbing," he said.

The Government could not expect to gather in the accolades being handed out to Britain's revived entertainment industry while wiping out the chances of the next generation of stars. "It's killing off people's spirit and we don't want to be Belgium," he

said. McGee, who signed up Oasis after discovering them in a Glasgow club, gave the Labour Party £50,000 before last year's general election. He was also a guest at a Downing Street reception last year.

Later there was more dissent when the all-party disability group, led by Lord Ashley of Stoke, emerged from a meeting

with Ms Harman to accuse ministers of turning disabled people into militants by reviewing their benefits.

Although the Secretary of State reiterated assurances that no disabled person in genuine need should fear the reassessment of their payments under the Benefits Integrity Programme, the campaigners were

not convinced. However, she refused to suspend the wider-scale review of welfare benefits on which the Government has embarked, or to guarantee there would be no significant cuts to disability benefits.

Lord Ashley said: "It seems... that this government is making militants out of six-and-a-half million moderate disabled people."

SMALL CHANGE



With effect from 28 February 1998 the old, larger, heavier 50 pence coins will be withdrawn from circulation.



This is how easy it is to get money out of the blue.

Barclayloan One Minute Test					
EXAMPLE:					
Residence					
With Parents	Best Furnished	Rent Unfurnished	Own Mortgage	Own Cash	
1	2	3	4	5	3
QUIZ:					
Residence					
With Parents	Best Furnished	Rent Unfurnished	Own Mortgage	Own Cash	
1	2	3	4	5	
Years at Present Address					
Under 2 Years	2-4 Years	5-9 Years	10-14 Years	15 Years or more	
1	2	3	4	5	
Gross Monthly Income					
£200-£250	£251-£300	£301-£350	£351-£400	Over £400	
1	2	3	4	5	
Years with Present Employer					
Under 2 Years	2-3 Years	4-6 Years	7-10 Years	Over 10 Years	
1	2	3	4	5	
% Monthly Income Remaining After Outgoings					
Less than 10%	10%-15%	16%-20%	21%-25%	Over 25%	
1	2	3	4	5	
Bonus Points					
Change Accs with Barclays	Savings Accs with Barclays	Loan at Barclays	Loan at Another Bank		
1	1	2	1		
This test is for your information only. It does not necessarily reflect the weight we give to any factor. It does not include many of the factors considered in evaluating a loan request such as payment history and your ability to service your monthly obligations. Final loan approval is not guaranteed by any score on this test. ©1999 The Forum Group.					
					TOTAL SCORE

1. Complete each question. In each case, choose the answer which best describes your current situation.
 2. Add up your score, and put the number in the "Total Score" box.
 3. If your total is 12 or more, you'll probably qualify for a Barclayloan. A score of 11 or less doesn't necessarily mean you won't qualify, since we'll take all your personal circumstances into account when you apply for a loan.
- If you could use a loan from £500 to £15,000 (with no arrangement fees or early repayment penalties), fill in the coupon opposite and post it. Or

drop into the nearest branch of Barclays. Or call Barclayloan Direct on 0500 444 000.

Name:	
Address:	
Post Code:	Telephone No.
Post to Barclays Bank PLC, Prospect, PO Box 2000, Nottingham NG7 1BR.	
Call Barclayloan Direct 0500 444 000	
Barclayloan	

15.9% APR - rate applicable on loans of between £7,000 and £11,000. Typical example - £7,000 loan repayable by 48 monthly repayments of £194.88 with a total amount payable of £9,344.24, excluding Barclayloan Protection. A written quotation is available from your local branch or from Barclayloan Direct, PO Box 223, Liverpool L69 2RS. To apply for a Barclayloan you must be 18 or over (20 in Jersey). Subject to status. Barclays Bank PLC is a member of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme (UK branches only). Reg. No. 1050167. Registered in England. Reg. Office: 24 Lombard Street, London EC3N 3JF. Some telephone calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.

Nicholas Schoon at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Philadelphia on how natives use plant life against disease and predators



Natural remedy: A scientist has studied Amazon tribes who extract drugs from a bean which they grind and then snort to flush out worms

Trance encounter for Amazon medicine man

Hallucinogenic drugs from the Amazon rainforest are also a powerful medicine against gut parasites, a leading "ethnobotanist" and biochemist told the meeting. They are prescribed by tribal medicine men for both spiritual and medicinal needs, with no clear dividing line between the two.

Professor Eloy Rodriguez of Cornell University, New York State, studies the ways in which several tribes and animal species in a small part of the Amazon jungle in Venezuela use plants. In a series of field trips, he and his researchers have identified more than 100 species which are used for purposes other than food - deterring parasites and predators, fighting disease and putting people into a trance. The scientists then try to identify the cocktail of chemicals involved.

He has studied two plants which contain potent hallucinogens. One is a Passiflora or passion flower with large, beautiful red and yellow flowers, whose leaves are used to make a drink. The other is a legume called yopo which produces bean pods; native people grind the beans into a fine snuff then snort it.

Dr Rodriguez has tried them. "They have a very strong hallucinogenic effect but they're also very strong purgatives. Jesus! I lost 10lb in weight."

The chemicals involved are beta carbolines. They are able to "knock out" nematode worms which infest native peoples, paralysing them so that the diarrhoea and vomiting also caused by the medicine purge them from the body. The worms depend on serotonin, the "happiness" chemical used to signal

between nerve cells, from their hosts to function normally. The carboline blocks their ability to use serotonin.

Tropical plants and insects contain a vast number of "secondary chemicals" which are used to deter predators. Native people have learnt to use them for making dozens of different poisons and medicines. Mammals scrape their fur with the bark or leaves of certain plants to keep pests off them, and eat others when they are sick.

Dr Rodriguez says he does not collaborate with Western drug firms prospecting for new materials because he believes native people will gain nothing. He says Indians must be encouraged to retain and spread their knowledge of the medicinal powers of local plants in their own countries, growing herb gardens.

Army stockpiles anti-riot chemicals

By Fran Abrams
Political Correspondent

BRITISH army chiefs are stockpiling a chemical 10 times more potent than CS gas to use in riots, *The Independent* has discovered.

The revelation that CR might be used fired from a water cannon to disperse crowds in the UK has disturbed civil rights campaigners.

The chemical is more volatile than CS and it causes sore eyes and breathing difficulties. Although its effects are not thought to be lasting, it causes extreme discomfort.

Officials disclosed that they had CR in their stocks as part of Britain's declaration under the Chemical Weapons Convention, which has not been published despite an earlier pledge to do so.

They would not say, though, how long they had held the chemical, where it was kept or in what circumstances it would be used. Nor would they say whether the government also had stores of water cannon from which to fire it into crowds.

The police have said they do not keep CR, so it seems it would only be used in circumstances where the army was called in to support them against rioters.

CR, the full name of which is Dibenz-1,4-Oxazepine, has not been used in the British Isles before although scientists at the Porton Down defence research centre in Wiltshire are known to have experimented with it about 20 years ago.

Harry Cohen, the Labour MP for Leyton and Wanstead, plans to table a series of parliamentary questions to find out more about the stockpile.

"Why is it that the Ministry of Defence has a greater variety of riot control agents than the civil police? I shall be demanding some answers," he said.

The civil rights group Liberty

is also angered by the disclosure. It already campaigns against CS, saying there has been no consultation or parliamentary scrutiny of its use.

Guidelines laid down by the Association of Chief Police Officers suggest CS should only be used by individual officers under attack, the group says.

John Wadham, Liberty's director, said neither CS nor CR should be used to control crowds. "We see it as part of a move towards policing by coercion rather than by consent," he said.

It does not seem that the stocks are destined for Northern Ireland. The Royal Ulster Constabulary, under whose umbrella the army acts in the province, said yesterday that it preferred plastic bullets.

"They are a much preferred means of riot control in any circumstances. Water cannons and CS gas are indiscriminate while plastic baton rounds can be directed at a particular rioter," a spokesman said.

Officials from the Department of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Defence would not say how much CS was held, where it was held or what plans there were for using it.

Although the Conservatives promised to publish the Government's submission under the Chemical Weapons Convention, which includes riot control agents, it has only released the parts relating to old stocks and ongoing defensive research.

In a separate development, it has also emerged that the Ministry of Defence has let a £100,000 contract to scientists at Porton Down to research alternatives to CS gas.

The sprays are mainly used by police forces to counteract attacks on individual officers.

Figures released by ACPO after a trial period reported a 6.8 per cent drop in assaults against officers armed with the spray, but a 14 per cent drop in assaults against a control group.

The perfect profile.



NOKIA 6110

The Nokia 6110 is Nokia's lightest and smallest phone yet. It has the familiar large full-graphics display making it so easy to use and comes in exciting chameleon-like colours which appear to shimmer and change colour. Owning one is like having a personal assistant wherever you go. There's a calendar and alarm clock, write your appointments and notes and using the in-built infra-red link, communicate wirelessly with a PC, printer or another 6110 phone. It's everything you want in a mobile phone plus a few extras you might not expect. The Nokia 6110 is the perfect package. Call 0990 003110 today for a leaflet.

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

Nokia is a registered trademark of Nokia Corporation, Finland.
Copyright © 1997, Nokia Mobile Phones Ltd. All rights reserved.

www.nokia.com

DAILY POEM

The Folklorist (for Kath Grant)

By Ian Duhig

*She ripped the fur up to the rabbit's ears
And the red tore left by her snare,
Saying some resurrection man once fell
Hauling her kin up yon church wall -
He pitched forward while the corpse tumbled back
And the slipknot rode to his neck
They hung like justice by the yew thicket
And would I like a lucky foot?*

Our poems today and tomorrow come from *Signals*, an anthology of poetry and prose from writers involved in the first Abbey Arts Week, organised by the Abbey Grammar School in Newry. *Signals*, edited by Adrian Rice, costs £8.95 (paperback) from The Abbey Press, Courtenay Hill, Newry, County Down BT34 2ED.

Voting in India's badlands

On the first day of the elections, Peter Popham takes to the road

I SET OFF yesterday morning for the badlands of Uttar Pradesh, with booth-capturing history-sheeters on my mind. Two hundred and twenty two of India's 545 constituencies voted in the general election, including Delhi, and much of the north. In several nearby constituencies, "history-sheeters" - people with a long history of being charged with crimes, or "charge-sheeted" as the Hindi term has it - are standing for election.

Elsewhere, confirmed gangsters, kidnappers and murderers operate with the protection of MPs. One way such people influence election results is by "booth-capturing" - staging raids on polling stations, setting them on fire, seizing ballot papers, marking them for their favoured candidate and stuffing the boxes, even (as happened in Bihar state yesterday), strangling the polling officer.

But India has 900,000 polling stations staffed by 4.5 million election officials, so one's chances of stumbling upon something gruesomely irregular are slim. I tried to improve the odds by going first to Ghaziabad, a ramshackle city an hour east of Delhi, where trouble was expected.

At the entrance of a half-built school, police with breech-loading rifles looked on laconically as the citizens filed in. The procedure at an Indian polling station is as follows. You present yourself, preferably but not compulsorily armed with identification, at a table manned by supporters of your favoured party, who check your name on a list, cross it off and give you a slip. At another table, a non-partisan polling official takes the slip, checks your name a second time, hands over a ballot paper and puts a streak of indelible ink across the index finger to deter you from coming back for more.

How voters who are not known supporters of a particular party get past the first table was not apparent, but I was assured that it is possible. At

Ghaziabad no boxes were on fire so I soon drove on. At the next polling station I visited all was not absolutely well.

Noida is another raw new town east of Delhi. As in Ghaziabad, politics and crime are closely interfolded here, with organised gangsters protected by political patrons and therefore strongly motivated to see that their patrons win.

Unlike Ghaziabad, security was genuinely tight here, traffic barred from entering the area, the press among the few exempt. Noida supposedly had 111 "supersensitive" polling stations where high security was in force. The one I visited was calm. But when I asked who was winning, the polling officer answered rather too quickly, "The BJP by a mile!" and smirked. If a BJP partisan was in control of the polling station, no amount of police could prevent the election being rigged.

Saturday's series of explosions in the southern city of Coimbatore, in which 48 people died, many at a BJP campaign rally, raised fears that this election might be marred by an upsurge of Hindu versus Muslim communal violence. So far that has yet to happen. In Bihar, where the polling officer was strangled, 12 other people died in polling day violence yesterday. And while there are four more polling days to come before counting begins on 8 March, my third polling station of the day offered some tantalising suggestions.

Chandni Chowk is a constituency in the medieval city of Old Delhi, a predominantly Muslim place and one of only two constituencies in the capital not held by the BJP. But here it became apparent that the conciliatory line adopted during this campaign by the BJP towards Muslims is beginning to bear fruit.

With its roots in militant Hindu nationalism, the BJP has always been anathema to Muslims. But for the first time, judging by the people I spoke to, Muslims are coming over to them in considerable numbers. One elderly Muslim man said without hesitation: "I voted BJP because they are doing a good job, and they are trying hard to please us." India's Muslim minority about 150 million strong. If this trend were to be reflected nationwide, the BJP would romp home.



A wheel from the China Airlines jet lying in front of a burnt-out building as firefighters search for survivors

Photograph: Chen Jai-wen/AP

200 die as Airbus ploughs into homes

By Stephen Vines in Hong Kong

MORE than 200 people are feared dead after a China Airlines Airbus 300 crashed on landing yesterday in Taiwan. The jet came down short of the runway at Chiang Kai-shek International Airport, near the capital Taipei, and ploughed on to the coastal highway, coming to a stop when it hit a number of buildings and exploded into a inferno.

The first victims were four adults and a baby travelling in a car which was hit by the aircraft. It then proceeded to destroy four buildings and hit

dozens of houses. Flight CI676, arriving from the Indonesian island of Bali, was carrying 182 passengers and 14 crew members. Rescuers worked through the night looking for survivors. The first to be found was a four-month-old baby who later died in hospital.

Officials are not holding out much hope of finding other survivors from the crash. Bodies and body parts were strewn over the coastal highway and surrounding rice fields.

Among the passengers were the governor of Taiwan's central bank, Sheu Yuan-

dong, and his wife and the head of the bank's foreign exchange department. Cyril Chen. They had been attending a central bankers' meeting discussing the Asian financial crisis. Taiwan has been playing a leading role assisting fellow Asian countries. Most of the other victims were thought to be tourists.

The cause of the crash is unknown. Last night, a China Airlines spokesman said that the company was awaiting further reports before making any comments. He confirmed that the pilot had told the control tower that visibility was bad

and that he was making a second attempt to land. Visibility had been bad earlier in the day but had improved by nightfall when the plane came down. Contact was lost during the second attempt. The black box, which may shed further light on the accident, has already been recovered.

Like most of China Airlines' pilots both the captain and his deputy were ex-airforce flyers. The captain had been with the airline since 1991. The crashed plane is seven years old. It is part of China Airlines' fleet of 10 Airbus. Exactly the same model was involved in Taiwan's

worst air disaster when a China Airlines Airbus 300 exploded at Japan's Nagoya airport in 1994, killing 263 people.

Rescuers were on the scene within 10 minutes of the crash but had difficulty getting close to the plane and burning buildings. Witnesses said that they heard an enormous explosion, followed by a fire ball as the plane hit the buildings.

China Airlines, the national flag carrier, which was recently privatised but is still indirectly state controlled, has a relatively good safety record.

EU backs IMF deal

EUROPEAN Union governments unanimously backed an IMF threat yesterday to pull out of a \$43bn rescue package for Indonesia if President Suharto presses ahead with a plan to peg the rupiah to the dollar. Jakarta's move would allow it to go on subsidising imports of rice and fuel and so avert further food riots. But the IMF and most western governments are opposed to IMF stand-by credits being used to back Indonesia's currency reserve. Without backing, a fixed exchange rate between the rupiah and the dollar would be "catastrophic", British officials said.

— Katherine Butler, Brussels

Quebec waits

IN WHAT the chief justice calls Canada's most important legal case ever, Supreme Court must decide whether Quebec has the right to secede unilaterally and declare independence. The court opened hearings yesterday. If it rules that Quebec cannot secede without the rest of Canada's consent, there could be a backlash in the mostly French-speaking province.

— AP, Ottawa

Bomb attack

ZIMBABWE'S only independent member of parliament said yesterday she was attacked by a petrol bomb on Saturday but was not injured. Margaret Dongo said she suspected the bomb, thrown at a home in Chitungwiza, bordering Harare, was aimed at her by supporters of President Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF party.

— Reuters, Harare

Killing spree

A GUNMAN went on a killing spree and shot dead eight neighbours before being beaten to death by survivors in a village in Lithuania. Police said the man's motive was not known.

— Reuters, Vilnius

Lions eat 7

TWO lions broke into a hut where seven members of an Ethiopian family were sleeping and ate them. The lions were scavenging in the drought-hit south of the country and had been terrorising residents before last week's fatal attack in Bale.

— Reuters, Addis Ababa

Chinese government backs down on expulsion of British aid worker from Tibet

By Teresa Poole in Peking

China has backed down after forcing a British aid worker to leave Tibet. The Save the Children Fund (SCF) education expert has been told she will be allowed to return to Lhasa and the charity hopes she will be back at her job within weeks. It is unusual for China to change

its mind about expelling a foreign resident.

When *The Independent* in December reported the refusal of officials in Tibet to renew the worker's residency papers, the European Union froze its planned 7.6m ecu (£5m) Panam development project for Tibet. The project is supposed to involve non-governmental or-

ganisations such as SCF, but when its education expert was expelled the British charity said it would not be able to consider involvement in Panam.

Sir Leon Brittan, vice-president of the European Commission, was in Peking yesterday for negotiations on China's attempts to join the World Trade Organisation, but his officials

will also be briefed on the SCF saga. The EU is seeking confirmation that the new work permit has been granted and no similar problems will occur. Only then will moves be made to sign the Panam agreement, the EU's first bilateral aid project for Tibet. Few foreigners are based full-time in Tibet and the expulsion of the SCF's

only expatriate staff member based in Lhasa sounded alarm bells among the aid community there. No reason was given after the woman was not allowed back into Tibet after going on holiday in July. It seemed the Chinese had become wary of her simply because she had lived in Lhasa for three years and spoke reasonable Tibetan.



Your first taste of France.

CRUISE IN STYLE
aboard a luxury ferry, hovercraft or catamaran.

Then cruise the shops in Calais.

Stylish boutiques, well-stocked hypermarkets, tempting restaurants.

Whether you're stocking up or winding down, don't forget...

Calais
begins with sea

SWIFTCALL
LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS

FREE!

Australia	18p	N. Zealand	27p
Germany	12p	Pakistan	72p
Hong Kong	27p	S. Africa	34p
India	50p	Thailand	72p
Ireland	10p	UK	5p
Japan	20p	USA	8p

Call us today for details on fantastic savings to hundreds of other destinations and how to open your pre-paid account.

0800 769 0033

Call 1800 794 381 if you live in Ireland, 1800 836 5005 if you live in the USA.

BUSINESS 0800 769 2222

THE INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT

£10 Conran lunch

Enjoy lunch or early evening supper at six of London's top restaurants throughout January and February for £10

How to Book

To participate in the offer simply collect one token (tokens will be printed every day until Saturday February 28th) and then telephone the restaurant of your choice quoting yourself as an Independent diner. On your arrival at the restaurant you should present your token in order to qualify for the offer. Each token is valid for a complete table booking. The tokens will be valid for one week only, and will be dated accordingly. To continue to participate in the offer, simply collect a token from the week in which you wish to dine. Pre-booking is essential and all bookings are subject to availability.

The Independent offer is available at the following restaurants:

Bluebird 350 King's Road, London, SW3 5JY
0171 559 1000. Lunch 12noon-3pm, early evening supper 6pm-7pm.
Blue Print Café The Design Museum, 28 Shad Thames, London, SE1 2YE
0171 378 7031. Lunch 12noon-3pm, early evening supper 6pm-7pm.
Le Pont de la Tour Bar & Grill 360 Shad Thames, London, SE1 2YE
0171 403 8403. Lunch 12noon-3pm, early evening supper 6pm-7pm.
Mezzio 100 Wardour Street, London, W1V 3LE
0171 314 4000. Lunch 12noon-3pm, early evening supper 6pm-7pm.
Quaglin's 16 Bury Street, St James's, London, SW1A 6AL
0171 920 6767. Lunch 12noon-3pm, early evening supper 5.30pm-6.30pm.
Zinc Bar & Grill 21 Heddon Street, London, W1R 7LE
0171 253 8899. The special 3 course menu is available between 12noon and 7pm between Monday and Wednesday the offer is extended until 11pm.
The offer is available 7 days a week, at all six restaurants.
* Closed from 6pm on Sunday
Offer not available after 6pm on February 14.

THE INDEPENDENT

INDEPENDENT

Name

Address

This voucher entitles the holder and all members of their booking to participate in The Independent/Conran Restaurants £10 lunch offer

هنا من الأصل



Fighting talk: Anti-war protesters climb the fences at the Northwood HQ of Britain's Gulf rapid deployment force in west London

Photograph: Andrew Burman

Annan prepares for last ditch trip to Baghdad

By Colin Brown
Chief Political Correspondent

KOFI ANNAN, Secretary-General of the UN, is to launch a last gasp effort to avoid war in the Gulf with a mission to Baghdad to persuade Saddam Hussein to allow his presidential palaces to be opened to arms inspectors.

Mr Annan was holding consultations with the five permanent members of the Security Council in New York last night but senior sources in London indicated that he could go to Baghdad later this week.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, made it clear Britain was "very supportive" but Downing Street emphasised that if the mission failed, Britain and the US remained ready to take action.

In spite of remarks by US defence chiefs last week that it would take another week to build up the military presence in the Gulf, senior British defence sources continued to raise the military tensions. "We are ready to go now," one said.

Mr Cook will use a debate in the Commons today to set out the reasons why the allies are preparing for military action. Foreign Office sources re-issued details of intelligence

reports gathered from Hussein Kamil, a defector from Saddam's inner coterie, who disclosed as early as 1995 that the dictator was hiding vast quantities of material involved in the production of weapons of mass destruction.

"UNSCOM has evidence that several organisations including the Special Republican Guard, the Special Security Organisation, and the Intelligence Organisation, have been involved in the mechanism (of concealment)," said a Foreign Office report.

The Government motion supports the efforts to reach a diplomatic solution with Iraq but expresses its full support for the resolve of the Government to "use all necessary means to achieve an outcome consistent with UN resolutions".

Leading Labour dissidents were meeting last night over their tactics for opposing the Government in the debate; around ten are expected to abstain or vote against. The Labour MPs are also planning to lead a vigil in protest at the war outside Downing Street tomorrow.

Meanwhile, a poll today by Talk Radio will show that 80 per cent of people are against war with Iraq.

Iraqi officers pay dear for West's coup fiasco

EIGHTEEN months ago M16 conducted a joint operation with the CIA to stage a military coup d'état in Baghdad. It was crushed by Saddam Hussein who executed up to 80 Iraqi officers and arrested hundreds of others. It is one of the biggest fiascos in the history of British foreign intelligence since the war.

The coup attempt was organised through Amman, the capital of Jordan, and was to be carried out by the Iraqi National Accord led by Dr Iyad Mohammed Alawi, once a member of the ruling Iraqi Baath Party, who fled to London in 1971.

The aim of the conspirators was to recruit Iraqi army and intelligence officers. But the Iraqi National Accord had a well-earned reputation for being riddled with double agents from Iraqi security. As the coup collapsed an Iraqi intelligence officer, in a final humiliating gesture, telephoned the CIA station chief in Jordan and told him to go home.

The extent of M16's involvement in the failed conspiracy was revealed by the *Los Angeles Times* at the weekend in an article based on interviews with CIA officers critical of the lack of support from the White House for their efforts to overthrow Saddam Hussein. It confirms that "the CIA program [to stage a coup], operated jointly with M16, the British intelligence service, was based in Jordan, using a front organisation called the Iraqi National Accord".

Despite its dubious reputation among Iraqis, the Accord was favoured not only by M16,

Saddam's intelligence service proved more than a match for a CIA and M16 attempt to unseat him, reports Patrick Cockburn

but by the London station of the CIA, according to former agency officials. London, a centre for Iraqi exiles, was also a fertile recruiting ground for former members of Iraq's military and political elite whom the Accord wanted to attract.

There is an element of farce in the attempts by Western intelligence to overthrow the Iraqi government. At one moment the FBI was called in by the acting head of the CIA to investigate his own agents for attempting to assassinate Saddam Hussein (the assassination of foreign leaders being illegal under United States law). And Washington only knew what its own agents were up to in Iraqi Kurdistan because the NSA, its code-breakers, had intercepted a message from Iranian intelligence officers to Tehran explaining what the CIA was doing.

From the moment President George Bush signed a finding in May 1991 telling the CIA to

overthrow Saddam Hussein, some of the agency's most experienced officers were dubious about their chances. Frank Anderson, the head of the CIA's Near East Division, told ABC television: "We didn't have a single mechanism or combination of mechanisms with which I could create a plan to get rid of Saddam at the time."

At first the CIA operated through an umbrella organisation called the Iraqi National Congress led by Ahmed Chalabi, a former banker, based in Iraq's three Kurdish provinces from which the Iraqi army had withdrawn. He wanted to build up an opposition army which, in alliance with the Kurdish factions, would begin to fight the Iraqi army, recruiting men through desertions and mutiny.

Separately, General Wafiq al-Samarra'i, the former head of Iraqi military intelligence, who joined the opposition in 1994, had a plan to assassinate

Saddam Hussein as he passed over a bridge in his home town of Samarra. Both the military offensive and the assassination bid were supported by the leader of the CIA team in Kurdistan, codenamed "Bob". It is a matter of dispute how much Washington knew.

"Bob" and Mr Chalabi decided the latter should tell Iranian intelligence officials what was going on - it was hoped they would cooperate in an attack on Iraqi government forces in south Iraq. He did so. But when they reported back to their headquarters their message was intercepted by the National Security Agency, the American code-breaking organisation. Informed in this roundabout way about what was happening Tony Lake, the National Security Adviser, sent a message to the CIA team in Kurdistan saying that it did not support the assassination or a military attack on the Iraqi leader.

It is at this point that M16 and the London station of the CIA developed an alternative strategy by producing the Iraqi National Accord. Brigadier Adnan Nuri, one of its leaders, was already on the CIA payroll. Through him the CIA was authorised by the White House to fund the Accord in a campaign of planting bombs in Iraq. Much is known of this because Abu Amneh al-Khadami, its chief bomb-maker, made a video, seen by *The Independent*, denouncing Brigadier Nuri as an Iraqi agent.

The new American and British strategy was to foment a military coup in Baghdad. General Hussein Kamel, the son-in-law of Saddam Hussein, fled Iraq for Jordan in 1995. The regime in Baghdad looked vulnerable. King Hussein, once close to Iraq, was turning against his old ally. British participation would be important because Dr Alawi and the Accord were based in London and Jordan was one of the handful

of Arab states where Britain still had significant influence.

Disaster followed swiftly. In January 1996 American, British, Jordanian and Saudi intelligence officers met in Saudi Arabia to coordinate plans. Dr Alawi moved to Amman. He also began to give interviews broadcasting his intentions. He emphasised that he wanted a coup not a revolution.

Saddam struck before he did. In late June and early July

news began to filter out of Iraq of the arrests of 160 military officers, including 12 from the elite Republican Guard and three from the Special Republican Guard which protects the Iraqi leader himself.

Going by the execution lists, the conspiracy against Saddam Hussein had some serious recruits. Among those to die were Staff Colonel Khamis Hadi Nimah, commander of the 6th Brigade of the Presi-

dential Guards Division, Brigadier General Ja'afar al-Tayyar, director of training at the Defence Ministry, and many junior and middle-grade officers. A hero of the Iran-Iraq war, General Tali Ruhayyim al-Duri, fled to Turkey.

The failure of the CIA and M16 against Saddam Hussein in 1996 marked a turning point in his fortunes. In August he dared send his tanks back into Kurdistan. A year later he felt strong enough to challenge the UN weapons inspectors and provoke the present crisis.

MOSSAD BUNGLER KEEPS JOB

A COMMISSION investigating the botched assassination of a Hamas official in Amman last September by Israel's Mossad intelligence service found the operation "fundamentally flawed", but refrained from blaming Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu or recommending him to sack General Danny Yatom, Mossad's boss. Jordan is boycotting all cooperation with Mossad for as long as General Yatom remains at its head. King Hussein is reported to be furious that Israel has not ruled out attacks on Jordanian soil in the future. The Mossad operations chief has already resigned. Inspired leaks from the Prime Minister's office suggest that General Yatom will be allowed to fall on his sword six months after he has completed two years in the post. — Eric Silver in Jerusalem

Saddam said to fear mutiny by army

By Ian Burrell

Senior British military sources suggested yesterday that President Saddam Hussein was deeply worried about the possibility of a revolt in Iraq and that his army was suffering from a crisis in morale.

Drawing on the latest intelligence reports, military chiefs said that President Saddam had despatched units from his elite Republican Guard to cities in the Shia Muslim heartlands of southern Iraq to quell possible outbreaks of unrest.

They said that the officer corps in the Iraqi army was becoming "increasingly politicised" and that the President was relying more heavily than ever on an inner circle of senior officers from his home region of Tikrit.

"Quite clearly Saddam is worried about the security of the regime," said a senior source. "He is worried about uprisings. Morale is bad within his army and some of his closest circle are unhappy."

Latest intelligence estimates on Iraq's military strength show



its fighting capability has diminished considerably since the conflict of 1990-91. The Iraqi army currently consists of some 400,000 troops with 2,200 tanks, approximately half the size of President Saddam's army in the last Gulf war.

Intelligence suggests that President Saddam has 10 long-range Scud-type al-Hussein missiles, which have a range of up to 372 miles. Iraq's anti-aircraft defences have been re-constructed but are regarded as "less comprehensive" than seven years ago. The Iraqi air force is estimated at some 300

Bombs for chemical war awaiting destruction in the last Gulf war, a picture the MoD released yesterday

consistently since before the first Gulf war," said the source. "He is also unsure what would happen... what the American response would be."

Nevertheless, it was revealed that the Ministry of Defence has sent supplies of vaccines, designed to combat chemical and biological attacks, to the Gulf to be distributed to British forces if necessary.

Military chiefs believe that Iraq has produced warheads capable of delivering chemical weapons, in particular mustard gas.

They also gave more details of the Iraqi biological weapons programme, including evidence that it had attempted to develop tularemia, described as a weaponised rodent disease, 30 times more deadly than anthrax. One source said: "[Saddam's] story could be a very chilling one, because he has some quite terrible weapons."

Crucially, military chiefs - who said that British forces in the Gulf were now "ready to go" - do not believe that Iraq would be willing to deploy chemical and biological weapons against the allies.

"That would very clearly show the whole world that they have been making these things and [Saddam] has denied this

Current Accounts

Get a better current account from the Royal Bank.

	ANNUAL OVERDRAFT FEES
THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND	NONE
BARCLAYS	£60
LLOYDS	£96
NATWEST	£60

Royal Bank current accounts now offer:

- no fees on agreed overdrafts†
- access to every cash machine in Great Britain*
- free 24 hour telephone banking.

Call into your local branch for details or call us on

0800 880 880

quoting ref IN4

www.rbs.co.uk

Alternatively complete the information below and send to: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, FREEPOST EH3231, Livingston, West Lothian EH54 5BR.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TEL NO: DAY _____ EVE _____

EXISTING CUSTOMER YES ☐ NO ☐

(We may telephone you to discuss your enquiry)

The Royal Bank of Scotland

Only applies to current accounts for personal customers. †This does not apply to overdrafts of £15,000 or over for which arrangement fees and renewal fees are payable. Annual overdraft fees are the arrangement and monthly fees for an overdraft of over £50 for one week per month with Barclays (Bank Account), Lloyds (Classic Account), Natwest (Current Plus) and The Royal Bank of Scotland Interest Paying Current Account. *EAR (correct at 8.1.98) 19.5%. Subject to age, status and prior agreement. Written quotations available. Calls may be recorded. *This includes all major cash machine networks.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Registered in Scotland No. 90312.

Blair to address French Assembly

By John Lichfield in Paris

THE PRIME Minister will become the first British politician ever to address the French National Assembly next month.

Mr Blair is expected to make at least part of the speech in French. If so, he will not be the first British Prime Minister to make a formal speech in France in French but he may be the first to do it well.

Those who have tried it before, with limited success, include Winston Churchill, Edward Heath and most recently, a heavily coached Margaret Thatcher at the opening of the Channel Tunnel works.

The French public has been astonished by the Prime Minister's command of their language in the brief television interviews he has given since he came to office last year. Mr Blair worked in France as a student and has spent several recent family holidays in the South-west of the country.

Although no final decision has been taken, officials in the French Parliament say they understand Mr Blair hopes to give part or all of his speech in French.

A date for the visit has yet to be finalised but it is likely to be around 24 March.

Mr Blair will be only the fifth foreign head of state or government ever to address the National Assembly, the lower house of the French Parliament. His predecessors are King Juan Carlos of Spain, President Bill Clinton, King Hassan II of Morocco and the Italian Prime Minister, Romano Prodi. All but President Clinton spoke in French.

"This is a very new tradition for the assembly," said an official at the French Parliament yesterday. "No previous British

prime minister has been invited because, until the last few years, we never invited heads of state or government to address us in this way."

The formal invitation to Mr Blair came from the former French Socialist Premier, Laurent Fabius, who is now president of the assembly - something between the Speaker of the Commons and the Speaker of the US House of Representatives. The visit to Paris is also expected to include informal talks with the Socialist Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, and the President Jacques Chirac.

Relations between Britain and France have been a little strained in recent weeks by the divergent approaches taken to the Iraq crisis. There have also been tensions over European issues, especially the exact nature of Britain's non-playing relationship with the countries who will join the Single European Currency next year.

Mr Blair and "Le Blairisme" retain a mostly positive image in France. The British Prime Minister is a favourite with French centre-right politicians and newspapers, if only as a stick with which to beat Mr Jospin and his more traditional approach to centre left politics.

In the last few weeks, however, there has been a re-examination of the adulation of Mr Blair. The left of centre news magazine *Marianne* devoted a column yesterday to Mr Blair's reported decision to block the House of Lords' attempt to end the Rupert Murdoch-inspired newspaper price war in Britain.

Marianne contrasted Mr Blair's "moralising" approach to politics with what it took to be his cynical decision to retain the support of the *Sun*.



A Bosnian Muslim woman holds a photo of her son at a demonstration in Sarajevo yesterday demanding action over the missing. Photograph AP

Right wing admits conspiracy against Gonzalez

By Elizabeth Nash in Madrid

The former Spanish prime minister Felipe Gonzalez was out being paranoid when he said murky forces were out to get him. A leading right-wing commentator admits he and a clutch of disaffected journalists plotted to oust the Socialist leader after his fourth election victory in 1993, even at the cost of threatening Spain's young democracy.

"It was an assault operation," says Luis Maria Anson, former editor of the conservative *ABC* newspaper, now Spain's head of a Mexican media company, Televisa. "Felipe Gonzalez was a man of such extraordinary political power and skill that it was necessary to go to the limit and put the state at risk in order to



Gonzalez said that dark forces were out to get him

break him." Mr Anson's remarks in today's *Tiempo* news magazine, trailed in *El Pais* newspaper, appear to vindicate what Mr Gonzalez and his supporters claimed throughout his last term in office: that

his opponents, dismayed when elections narrowly cheated the conservatives of an expected victory, resorted to a strategy of increasing national tension to achieve his downfall.

Mr Anson's words have reignited a polemic that has rent Spain's chattering classes in recent years, has permeated every media outlet in the country and in which there is now no neutral ground.

Mr Gonzalez said that Mr Anson had revealed a "small part ... of a concerted effort to play dirty", and called upon him to tell the whole truth. "[Mr Anson] knows that the conspirators' plans were much more ambitious" than to replace Mr Gonzalez with a conservative government. This is taken to refer to supposed plans, aired at

the time, to provoke the abdication of King Juan Carlos and the establishment of a republic.

Mr Anson says that after the Socialists' narrow victory in 1993 a group of prominent radio, television and print journalists met regularly in his office to plan ways of "raising the threshold of criticism ... by probing the world of irregularities, of corruption." These efforts "reached such extremes that they frequently ousted the stability of the state."

In the *Tiempo* interview Mr Anson admits "Mr Gonzalez was right when he denounced the threat ... but it was the only way to get him out. Not just because of possible abuses he had committed, if he had, but because of the risk there would never be an alternative gov-

ernment." Mr Anson recalled: "I didn't like sending my reporters on the road with Gonzalez because they would start off critics and end up *Felipistas*."

"I myself avoided meeting him ... I couldn't forget coming out of our conversations thinking: 'Why must I criticise someone so agreeable, seductive and interesting?'"

Among those named by Mr Anson is Pedro Ramirez, editor of *El Mundo* newspaper, which yesterday accused the Socialists of being the real conspirators.

They set up the undercover anti-Eta death-squads, the Gal, which killed more than 20 Basques in the early 1980s, then tried to cover up the truth and escape the punishment they deserve, *El Mundo* said.

Cyprus divide narrows after poll

By Rupert Cornwell

THE WEEKEND re-election of outgoing President Glavkos Clerides signals an intensified effort for a Cyprus settlement — amid hints of a more conciliatory line from Rauf Denkash, the hitherto intransigent leader of the Turkish Cypriots.

As expected, Mr Clerides' victory was paper-thin. The final results of Sunday's runoff gave him 50.8 per cent of the vote, compared with 49.2 per cent for George Iakovou, the former foreign minister, who was promising fresh ideas to heal the division of the island, split along ethnic lines since the Turkish invasion of northern Cyprus in July 1974.

The task facing him is huge — involving not only the search for a settlement with the Turks, but also Cyprus' entry negotiations into the European Union. "Now we need to get down to work," Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary said last night.

Alas, far from providing a catalyst for a settlement, the EU issue threatens to divide the communities further, with Mr Denkash insisting that the internationally-recognised Greek Cypriot government has no right to negotiate on behalf of the Turks.

Yesterday however the Turkish Cypriot leader seemed to yield some ground. Instead of demanding full recognition for his self-styled Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, he simply called for "direct talks" between "two peoples who have been ruling themselves separately".

Even assuming a genuine desire to create a single bizonal state, the gulf between the sides remains enormous. But Mr Denkash must contend with the appeal of EU membership to many of his compatriots. That yearning has increased all the more as Turkey's own problems have deepened, and an international embargo severs the Northern economy from the rest of the world.

STANDARD LIFE BANK™

Now it couldn't be simpler to save for the unexpected.



Excellent interest rates and no notice required.

One day there's just the two of you. You planned for a family, but ... life's like that. It throws up the unexpected from time to time. Which is where our Direct Access Savings Account comes in handy. With it you'll:

- receive excellent tiered rates of interest from as little as £1.
- have the convenience of banking by phone.
- be able to withdraw money at any time with no notice and no penalties.
- have no limit on the number of withdrawals you can make.

7.30%
NO NOTICE REQUIRED

• be able to pool your savings with family or friends to earn more interest.

Simple to arrange. Opening your account couldn't be simpler. You can either do it through your financial adviser or call us direct - it only takes a few moments.



0345 55 56 57
Saving has never been simpler

PHONE LINES OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM, SATURDAY 8AM-5PM

Terms and Conditions available on request. *Gross p.a. - the rate of interest paid yearly without deduction of lower rate tax to eligible non-taxpayers. Rates may vary. Standard Life Bank Limited is a company registered in Scotland (number SC173686) Registered Office Standard Life House 50 Lothian Road Edinburgh EH1 2DH. Standard Life Bank Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Standard Life Assurance Company and is a member of the Standard Life Group of companies. For your protection, telephone calls will be recorded. We may also monitor telephone calls to help us improve customer service. Standard Life Bank Limited is a member of the Deposit Protection Scheme established under the Banking Act 1987 (as amended). Payments under the Scheme are limited to 90% of a depositor's total deposits subject to a maximum payment to any one depositor of £18,000 (or £31,000 if greater). Further details of the Scheme are available on request.

SOMETIMES IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE.



When you have a problem, it's the most natural thing in the world to want to talk it through with someone.

Sometimes, though, this creates another problem: who's the best person to confide in?

An obvious choice would be a close friend. But let's face it, we don't always choose our friends for their amazing powers of tact, diplomacy and discretion. Tell one person, and you may end up telling the world.

You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who fancy us.

And sometimes your relationship is

the very problem you want to discuss. That's where The Samaritans can be useful. We're more discreet than your best mate, we'll listen as carefully as your girlfriend or boyfriend, and we're as sympathetic as your family. We're also non-judgemental, unshockable, and extremely experienced.

Our national number is 0345 90 90 90, and you can e-mail us on jo@samaritans.org or visit our homepage at www.samaritans.org. We're available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

And you don't have to be climbing up the walls before you call us - any kind of problem, big or small, is a good enough reason to pick up the phone. Call now. You'll find we're remarkably easy to talk to.

The Samaritans

Chefs become brand names

Why settle for Michelin stars when you can have a restaurant empire? Vanessa Thorpe talks to the new culinary kings

Every day Jean Christophe Novelli clambers aboard his moped, checks his mirror and speeds across London to call in, one by one, on each of his four restaurants. "I have a need to be crazy," says the chef. "I am hyper. I am condemned to be like that. In one day I start at Novelli W8 and then I go to Les Saveurs in Mayfair and then I go in 10 minutes to Maison Novelli in Clerkenwell and then I go to the Novelli EC1 and then to cook at Les Saveurs and then I go back to EC1. And about once a month I go to my restaurant in Cape Town."

With his speedy bike, Novelli, well known for being at the cutting edge of food fashions, is now the most extreme example of the one of the most notable trends in cooking. Many of Britain's most famous chefs are no longer happy with one restaurant in which to display all their creative skills. Now they want to brand themselves with a series of eateries.

Celebrity chefs such as Antony Worrall Thompson, Marco Pierre White and Raymond Blanc enjoy so much acclaim that they are able to build up gastronomic empires at the drop of a *bain-marie*.

Soon it will be impossible, even at the very best restaurants, to know for sure that a genius – rather than a hired underling – has overseen the arrangement of the crescent of wild mushrooms on your plate.

The expansionist trend became firmly established in London last summer when Michelin-starred Marco Pierre White accepted an astonishing seven hotel-restaurant deal to crown his stewardship of Quo Vadis and The Criterion. Since then his bid for domination of the capital has been challenged by the 36-year-old Novelli and, on a smaller scale, by Alastair Little and Stephen Bull.

Dashing a few miles between different London venues might just be possible, but the chefs are now branching out to such an extent that they are opening restaurants in their name hundreds and even thousands of miles apart. Novelli, for instance, has another in Normandy and even one in South Africa, while Raymond Blanc has just opened a branch in Cheltenham.

The trend has appalled die-hard traditionalist chefs, and foodies too, who fear that quality can only be diluted by such franchising. Gourmets are wondering what can be happening to *haute cuisine* when one of the masters, Raymond Blanc – the man behind the legendary Le Manoir aux Quat Saisons in Great Milton, Oxfordshire – is happy to become a brand name.

One critic of the trend, the television chef Anthony Tobin, who runs The Dining



Jean Christophe Novelli: 'I have a need to be crazy. I am hyper. I am condemned to be like that'

Photograph: Tom Pilston

Room in Reigate, Surrey, warns that an eminent presence in the kitchen of a top restaurant is part of "a tacit bargain made with the patrons".

But in these days of the chef-as-showbiz star, the crowds seem to love expansion. Take Blanc's opening of Le Petit Blanc in Cheltenham. Four teenage schoolgirls from a nearby convent slipped out of their building, jumped over the wall and ran straight into town to attend the ritzy launch party for Blanc's £850,000 establishment.

That was one evening when you could guarantee Blanc would be in attendance. "These girls were amazing, so determined," he recalls. "The whole launch was absolutely amazing, in fact, especially when you think this place is supposed to be full of retired generals. We were packed out with people who love food."

Blanc was the last man that hard-line foodies expected to be seduced in this way.

"You can hardly accuse me of being imperialist," Blanc protests. "I have had many, many opportunities, but until now I have refused them categorically. For 14 years I have resisted all sorts of temptations. I knew that if I left the kitchen I would lose my heart, my core."

He insists that the recent birth of his two Le Petit Blanc brasseries, the first in the centre of Oxford last June, is a different thing altogether. "We don't intend to do a chain. It would be too boring. We just want them to be the best of their type."

Yet Blanc will admit that he is keeping an eye open for other suitable sites for the brasserie project, which is a joint venture with Richard Branson and Forte.

"We are being much more businesslike than ever before. When I opened another restaurant in Oxford 10 years ago I had a glorious kind of failure. We became much too good," he says, with customary chef-like modesty. "This time we will simply offer

quality and value and I will stay in my kitchen at Le Manoir."

This means that visitors to all future Petit Blancs will be paying for the Blanc concept rather than for any direct involvement from the great man himself.

Jean Christophe Novelli, whose venues have all opened up within the past two years, says he knows that becoming bigger is making him more vulnerable to criticism about the lowering of standards. His salvation, he believes, is in the hands of his staff.

"I know how far I can push. You can feel the potential of your business according to your staff. They are the most important part of the business. I cannot fail with them."

On a Friday night at his formal and discreet restaurant, Les Saveurs, in Mayfair's Curzon Street, some cracks in the Gallic veneer are evident. The wrong first course is brought to one table, while the correct dishes – of trout tartare and a terrine – take

at least three quarters of an hour to appear.

"Of course, it is impossible to be there all the time," says Novelli, "but I remember one American woman actually tried to sue The Castle at Tunton a few years back, because Gary Rhodes was not there on the Sunday night she visited."

Anthony Tobin argues that the tension between quality and expansion will always be there for a prestigious chef. "They are generally very poor people and, of course, there comes a time when they want to make money. And if they are fair to people, and if they are good, it will work."

Tobin has decided to stick with his own Reigate kitchen but, at the same time, to help run a chain of Italian restaurants with an entirely different cuisine to his own.

"After all," he explains, "you never see an empty Italian restaurant."

There are still a few purists left though, who, like Tobin's mentor Nico Ladenis,

have stuck to their stoves and stayed in the kitchen. Sally Clarke, of Clarke's in Kensington, is one such, although she suggests that it is all really a question of temperament.

"It is a team effort, but at the end of the day it should be down to me to get it right. It is my fault when we win and my fault when we fail."

After 13 years she has learnt to put Clarke's before everything else. "I know some people like Marco Pierre White, or Alastair Little, choose to spread themselves a little thinner. I guess it is just my problem that I want to be here to watch everything," she says.

Perhaps Raymond Blanc should heed his own words: "Chefs today only talk about how many guests they have and how many places they have. It is very dangerous because there have to be some parameters. A restaurant should be about hospitality."

'Meeting Mandela was the moment everything clicked together'

REVELATIONS

The time: 1990
The place: Wembley Stadium
The man: Jim Kerr of Simple Minds

I grew up in the south side of Glasgow at the beginning of the industrial decline. The writing was on the wall. Shipyards were closing and there was a feeling of fading glory; outside of London we had been the Empire's second biggest city, so I was surrounded by all the symbols of Glasgow's magnificent past.

It was a much more naive time than now – no heroin – and there was a lot of love about between the people who brought me up. So it's hard not to look back with rose-tinted glasses, but there was a real feeling of community, and values: the world begins at the bottom of your street, it doesn't end there. As it was a major port, lots of people had travelled, and we were building ships that would sail all over the world. It was fed down to us. I learnt that what goes on elsewhere in the world does matter, you can protest and make an impact.

My grandfather would tell me wonderful stories about India and South Africa, and his time in the forces fighting in the second World War. Not surprisingly, my favourite times at school were when we did a project on faraway places such as the Amazon and I was transported away from the life I knew. My father worked on the sites, but he was a voracious reader, so his head travelled. He rebelled against what was meant to be your lot in Glasgow. It was travelling that helped

me gain a conviction for Simple Minds. My musical partner, Charlie Burchill, and I went hitch-hiking from Glasgow to London to see the Sex Pistols play. We'd heard about a new kind of music and we wanted to check it out. I remember waiting at Newport Pagnell for another lift, and it was the first time I had seen anybody of West Indian descent. I was consumed by the foreignness of everything. It all seemed so exotic to me – even the motorway service stations. I just wanted to stop and stare.

In fact we bypassed the concert altogether. The lifts went so well, we ended up three weeks later in a train station in Milan! Every time we crossed a border, I felt a sense of exhilaration. Up until then we had just sat around talking about forming a band, but the euphoria of this trip pushed us over the edge.

Charlie and I had bonded; with two people you can have your own little revolution and not accept your lot. Individually you can feel mad, but as a couple, the odds of both of you being fruitcakes lengthens. I needed to have a stab at expressing myself, even though I wasn't sure what to say. However, if you stick out your thumbs and go wherever the lift takes you it is amazing what can happen.

On a second hitching trip to London, we visited about eight record companies. With all the marble and chandeliers in some of the offices, we felt uncomfortable just leaving our demo tapes with the receptionists. On the way back we saw Bob Dy-



Photograph: John Voss

lan play to 100,000 people – which gave us plenty of inspiration. By the time our thumbs got us home, four companies had got in touch. Timing and luck, as in hitch-hiking, were all-important. The record companies had been so stung by some awful punk bands and a lack of melody that they were hungry for something new. We signed with Arista records, which had a hallowed building in Park Lane – this time we came down in luxury on the sleeper train. We were so keen, we stood outside on the pavement waiting for the offices to open.

For a while, the excitement of the journey and our growing self-confidence were enough. However, after achieving global success with *Once Upon a Time*, I had a hollow feeling. I had just sold 12 million copies of one album, and I was still thinking there had to be more to it than this. CNN and Oprah Winfrey invited us on to their shows: the world wanted to talk to me. Going on to *Goo Morn-*

ing America, it suddenly dawned on me: all those millions of people listening – but do I have anything meaningful to say?

Midway through the show the interviewer asked me who my heroes were outside of music. My reply was Nelson Mandela. At the time he was still in prison in South Africa, and I found myself on an anti-apartheid crusade before really thinking about it. My grandfather's stories came flooding back, of the beauty of Cape Town, but also how awfully they treated the blacks. I didn't think I had the answers – God forbid – but at least I had the questions. Simple Minds didn't leap on to a bandwagon; it was something inherent in us and in our music. We were fundamental to making the "Free Nelson Mandela" concert happen, as they needed a big-name stadium act to headline. Our *Mandela Day* became the flagship song for the event. It was hard to write because he really was the man in the iron

mask; there was only one picture, which was 25 years old, and beyond that – nothing.

Following his release and a concert to celebrate his birthday at Wembley Stadium, I finally had a chance to meet Nelson Mandela. It was the most incredible experience. He was very playful, which made everybody relax, and he asked me about Glasgow. It was such an easy-going atmosphere, but he said something that I always carry with me: "When there was no voice allowed in South Africa, we could always somehow hear the voice of the artists, which gave us sustenance." It was a fantastically encouraging thing to say.

The biggest battle I have is with the cynic inside which says: what's the point, who cares? What will you achieve in the long term if you write a song or not? If there's a bad concert review, the next night there are thousands of people shouting for more, and it cleanses you. I can cope with everybody else's negativity, but until I met Nelson Mandela there was no hiding-place when I gave myself a hard time at two in the morning.

He is so right. Artists are always at the forefront of the trouble-makers – look at the Chinese authorities, and their fear that four poets on the Internet will bring down the country. I had a wonderful example of the impact of our music when I met a girl in the lobby of a French hotel who had started a fan club, and because of the idealism in our songs they have created a little orphanage in Bosnia. Meeting Nelson Mandela was a revelation. The moment when everything clicked together.

In June we will be playing

again to Nelson Mandela, in front of a vast concert during the World Cup to promote anti-racism. It is still an important cause for us; to this day if I see somebody humiliated it makes me feel physically ill. Both musically and physically I'm still on a journey. These

days Simple Minds are in an ugly duckling stage – too old to be the latest thing but not old enough to be a legend. It will probably take a couple more years before we come back into fashion, but I don't care. To a degree we're still making up Simple Minds as we go

along we've still standing on the music superhighway with our thumbs out."

Interview by Andrew G Marshall

Simple Minds' new single, "Glitterball", is out on Monday; the album *Neapolis* is released on 9 March.

THE INDEPENDENT Foldaway Treadmill

- only £59.95 inc. p&p

Exercising at your own pace on a Treadmill is one of the best ways to get in trim and stay in trim, whether you are on a weight loss programme or simply trying to improve your fitness.

This hard-wearing, foldaway Treadmill is perfect for a brisk walk or a long run, without having to worry about bad weather or your safety on the streets. It monitors your speed and the distance you cover and folds down for easy storage. It is on offer for just £59.95 including delivery.

Please send me _____ Treadmill(s) @ £59.95 each inc p&p

I enclose a crossed cheque for £ _____ (address on back) made payable to: _____

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING LTD 0171 510 0192

or debit my Access/Visa account by this amount. My card number is: _____

Expiry Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Signature: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Post Code: _____

Send to: THE INDEPENDENT TREADMILL OFFER, PO Box 9477, London E3 3SH.

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive future offers from Newspaper Publishing Plc. ☐ NO

Reg. No. 1009077 Newspaper Publishing Plc. Reg. Office: 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E3 3SH.

HOW TO ORDER Fill in the coupon and send together with cheque or postal order. NO CASH please to THE INDEPENDENT TREADMILL OFFER, PO BOX 9477, LONDON E3 3SH.

FOR ACCESS/VISA ORDERS, PLEASE PHONE 0171 510 0191

Or for enquiries please call 0171 510 0193.

We deliver to addresses in the UK only. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Return within 7 days for refund if not completely satisfied. Offer subject to availability.

In June we will be playing



Look, no harps: Antony Gormley's 'Angel' spreads its wings over the AI

Photograph: David Rose

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a Gormley

Andrew Lambirth looks on as Gateshead's 'Angel' finally takes wing

What is the purpose of public art? To please people or arouse controversy? Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North* rears against the skyline of Gateshead like a crucifixion. What does it represent? Sited atop an extinct colliery, it is intended to symbolise the glories of Britain's industrial past and hope for its future, but does it really do this?

Gormley has said of an earlier version of the piece, entitled *A Case for an Angel*, that he didn't want it to be symbolic. "I want the work to be as actual as it can be, which is why my version of an angel is a rather uncomfortable mixture between aeronautics and anatomy."

Indeed, this great winged figure looks more like an aeroplane than an angel. From a distance, it appears remarkably modest, though it stands 65ft tall, with

a wingspan of 175ft. From the train, a view of it is impeded until you are almost on top of it. From the road, it looks far more spectacular, though a clump of tower blocks is too close for comfort. Seen from its foot, looking up, the sheer bulk strikes home, coupled with an elegance of outline – the profile is meltingly sinuous. But of course it is the scale that principally engages.

Gormley's body-case sculptures, of which the *Angel* is a gigantic version, are cast from his own body. This might be thought faintly blasphemous when the sculpture is supposed to depict an angelic being, but no more so than a Renaissance artist painting his girlfriend as the Virgin Mary. Gormley creates a challenging image that is not intended to bring comfort, but to confront existence.

Nothing on this scale has been built in Britain before. Brancusi's *Endless Column* in Romania stands 96ft high but it doesn't have the mass of the *Angel*. Yet why did Gormley make the wings so huge? If the figure didn't look so balanced, you'd think they were out of proportion to the body. They act as a kind

of barrier – like the gate that comes down at a level crossing when a train is due.

The pose is hieratic, like a priest offering thanks to God, but the face, with its lack of features or expression, is vaguely menacing. It's a contradictory sculpture, at once firmly grounded but also aspiring heavenward. Is it neutral or anguished? (Gormley generally does a good line in anguish.) The *Angel* is isolated. Even suppose it could come down to go through the door if you invited it home. It is, in fact, the perfect stuff of legend. Perhaps, like the Cerne Abbas giant, it will inspire pilgrimages – but for those seeking enlightenment, rather than fertility.

Perhaps the *Angel* best signifies the cultural renaissance currently emerging in Tyneside – Gateshead's Baltic flour mills are about to be transformed into a £46m international centre for contemporary visual art, with a Norman Foster concert hall complex adjacent. If the main point is to attract attention to the area and to engage people in debate, the *Angel* will be a great success.

It would all come out in the wash

That Marthe, she was never out of the bath. It's a wonder that Pierre ever got a look in. But when he did, writes Tom Lubbock, he gave a unique view of a marriage at work

There's a statue of a faithful dog in Edinburgh, but the human heroes of private life get few monuments. What could we have: the tomb of the unknown hubby? Well, there's Oprah Winfrey et al, offering a brief pedestal to personal struggles. But generally our heroes of heart and home are drawn from fiction and the already famous. One of the main reasons we have novels, soap-operas, tabloids, biographies is to provide such exemplary lovers, couples and families, and the lives of poets are often very good material: the Brownings, Oscar and Bosie, Tom and Viv, Sylvia and Ted, Larkin too (the emblem of a certain kind of single life). And then, from the lives of the artists, there's Pierre and Marthe.

The relationship of Pierre Bonnard and Marthe de Mèligny is a curious art-life criss-cross. It isn't a hagiographical extra to Bonnard's art. Indeed, it offers little overt drama. Pierre met Marthe in 1893, when he was 26 and she

with Marthe sprawled naked, supine, post-coital on a rumpled bed – and imagine coming across a comparable image in someone's photo album, how you'd think "I probably wasn't meant to see this one" – or "I hope I wasn't" – because that sort of erotic showmanship would be rather nauseating. And, with these Bonnards, it is a fine line. He doesn't convert his sex-life, like Picasso, into general sex-symbols. It's definitely this particular woman on show. But Bonnard saves the gambit through an intimacy so absorbed that it becomes unselfed. The viewpoint is clearly his, him standing by the bed looking down, but before him Marthe is lost, in herself and in the sheets that fold her body into their light.

There are 00 more such bedroom scenes after the ear-

been miserable, or miserably unequal, a sorry sort of shut-away mutual bondage, with her (on some accounts, basically a nutcase) wholly dependent on him, and him a dubious martyr, needing and outsourcing using her dependence.

What does that do to the pictures? Make their intense plenitude claustrophobic, or the sign of an all-infusing, all-transfiguring love, or a resolutely denying and thriving fantasy? Perhaps rather an intimacy and habituation that can hardly tell the difference between these things. Marthe is everywhere, visible and invisible. Bonnard deals in *Mary Celeste* still-lives and interiors, which carry a human presence even when there is no person there, and in a kind of picture puzzle – there is a woman concealed in this scene, can you find her? – where Marthe either lurks inconspicuously but insistently, as a dim profile just inside the painting's margin, or is incorporated so thoroughly into the colour scheme that

'You wonder if this was a marriage of great convenience for an artist who wanted to paint bathers – or if bath-time got as obsessional for him as it did for her'

ly 1900s. But the point shouldn't be over-stated: the paintings are not a confessional documentary. They don't tell tales. The internal drama of the marriage is conveyed obliquely, and must to an extent be read in.

Take the many pictures of Marthe bathing. One way, they look like variations on an established theme, the "Nude in the Tub", and that's how Bonnard titles them. But evidently it is the same woman, and the same woman who appears clothed in so many of the interiors; and Pierre himself is present in these bath scenes, indicated by an intruding leg, or again just by a viewpoint – the viewpoint of someone who's in the room too, and close by. And when you know that Marthe, due to some mental or physical complaint, spent hours daily in the bath, the repeating subject becomes more than a theme. The bath seems a refuge or a prison, and you wonder if this was a marriage of great convenience for an artist who wanted to paint bathers – or if bath-time got as obsessional for him as it did for her.

Criticism of Bonnard's art easily becomes criticism of his marriage, and I don't see that this can or should be avoided, so long as you grant that marriage-criticism is at least as tricky a practice. Naturally the art only gives one side of the relationship (but that's an exemplary role too: all anyone has of their relationships is a one-sided view; how you deal with that one-sidedness is the issue). And then the paintings, with their saturating colours and sensory plenitude, seem to say it was all bliss, a paradise – while the facts suggest it must have

her figure, though central, is barely discernible.

Sometimes he has both effects, *Mary Celeste* and "Find the Lady", together. I was looking at *White Interior* (1932) for a while, thinking "How's he done it? How does he get such a strong feeling that someone has just gone out, and will shortly return?" – something to do with the relationship of the orange chair and the white door – and then I saw that she was in fact there, nearly in the middle of the picture, but hidden by the way, bending behind the table to play with the carpet.

Bonnard famously said he wanted his paintings to give the impression of someone just entering a room, an optical overload, more than can be taken in at a glance. Here that's just what happens. You go through the sequence thinking first "She's definitely around somewhere", and then "Ah, Marthe, there you are!" – or more coolly "Oh, there she is". For Marthe's pervading presence needn't be felt as a simple blessing; maybe as inescapable. Always around – that can be said in several tones of voice, and paint. Bonnard paints her in so deeply that he almost paints her out, and thereby shows that paint her out, he can't.

When Bonnard is alone, in his self-portraits – if you can call them that, because they're always the view in some mirror in the home, a moment of reflective solitude, not a set-piece self-image – he seldom looks happy. In the one called *The Bather* (1931), you see a puny man beating his fists in a tantrum. In one of the last, after Marthe's death, *Self-Portrait in the Bath-*

room *Mirror* (1946), he looks like a dead man himself. And the late bath-scenes, painted before and after she died, are rather frightening fantasies.

Marthe's body never ages, but it acquires distortions that neither water nor a wide-angled view can explain. It floats corpse-like, it dissolves into its liquid cocoon and into the painting; in the last one of all, into a sea of sour metallic hues no one would call paradisaical. One hardly likes to speculate what mixture of grief, remorse, nostalgia and resentment is to be fathomed here. An exemplary marriage: an abyss. The only clear image in this final picture is the basset, heraldic on a bright square of bathmat – as if to say, the man may be lost, but the dog at least is simply faithful to the woman's memory.

To 17 May, Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (0171-887 8000)



Marthe in the bath again (aka 'Nude crouching in the tub', 1918)

Photograph: Private Collection, Paris

CLASSIFIED

Fashion	Legal Notices
<p>The Irish Linen shirt</p> <p>Handcrafted from Ireland's famous natural flax, the beauty of this linen lies in its distinctive weaves, crisp smooth feel and unique texture. It is cool and natural but also very strong and is able to maintain its special qualities throughout its long life. If you want the best then pure linen is essential. Comfortable and practical, this is a quality garment that has become fashionable in all the great design houses of the world. Available in white, natural and black. 50/50 L/XL 29.95. 60/60 L/XL 34.95. 70/70 L/XL 39.95. 80/80 L/XL 44.95. 90/90 L/XL 49.95. 100/100 L/XL 54.95. 110/110 L/XL 59.95. 120/120 L/XL 64.95. 130/130 L/XL 69.95. 140/140 L/XL 74.95. 150/150 L/XL 79.95. 160/160 L/XL 84.95. 170/170 L/XL 89.95. 180/180 L/XL 94.95. 190/190 L/XL 99.95. 200/200 L/XL 104.95. 210/210 L/XL 109.95. 220/220 L/XL 114.95. 230/230 L/XL 119.95. 240/240 L/XL 124.95. 250/250 L/XL 129.95. 260/260 L/XL 134.95. 270/270 L/XL 139.95. 280/280 L/XL 144.95. 290/290 L/XL 149.95. 300/300 L/XL 154.95. 310/310 L/XL 159.95. 320/320 L/XL 164.95. 330/330 L/XL 169.95. 340/340 L/XL 174.95. 350/350 L/XL 179.95. 360/360 L/XL 184.95. 370/370 L/XL 189.95. 380/380 L/XL 194.95. 390/390 L/XL 199.95. 400/400 L/XL 204.95. 410/410 L/XL 209.95. 420/420 L/XL 214.95. 430/430 L/XL 219.95. 440/440 L/XL 224.95. 450/450 L/XL 229.95. 460/460 L/XL 234.95. 470/470 L/XL 239.95. 480/480 L/XL 244.95. 490/490 L/XL 249.95. 500/500 L/XL 254.95. 510/510 L/XL 259.95. 520/520 L/XL 264.95. 530/530 L/XL 269.95. 540/540 L/XL 274.95. 550/550 L/XL 279.95. 560/560 L/XL 284.95. 570/570 L/XL 289.95. 580/580 L/XL 294.95. 590/590 L/XL 299.95. 600/600 L/XL 304.95. 610/610 L/XL 309.95. 620/620 L/XL 314.95. 630/630 L/XL 319.95. 640/640 L/XL 324.95. 650/650 L/XL 329.95. 660/660 L/XL 334.95. 670/670 L/XL 339.95. 680/680 L/XL 344.95. 690/690 L/XL 349.95. 700/700 L/XL 354.95. 710/710 L/XL 359.95. 720/720 L/XL 364.95. 730/730 L/XL 369.95. 740/740 L/XL 374.95. 750/750 L/XL 379.95. 760/760 L/XL 384.95. 770/770 L/XL 389.95. 780/780 L/XL 394.95. 790/790 L/XL 399.95. 800/800 L/XL 404.95. 810/810 L/XL 409.95. 820/820 L/XL 414.95. 830/830 L/XL 419.95. 840/840 L/XL 424.95. 850/850 L/XL 429.95. 860/860 L/XL 434.95. 870/870 L/XL 439.95. 880/880 L/XL 444.95. 890/890 L/XL 449.95. 900/900 L/XL 454.95. 910/910 L/XL 459.95. 920/920 L/XL 464.95. 930/930 L/XL 469.95. 940/940 L/XL 474.95. 950/950 L/XL 479.95. 960/960 L/XL 484.95. 970/970 L/XL 489.95. 980/980 L/XL 494.95. 990/990 L/XL 499.95. 1000/1000 L/XL 504.95. 1010/1010 L/XL 509.95. 1020/1020 L/XL 514.95. 1030/1030 L/XL 519.95. 1040/1040 L/XL 524.95. 1050/1050 L/XL 529.95. 1060/1060 L/XL 534.95. 1070/1070 L/XL 539.95. 1080/1080 L/XL 544.95. 1090/1090 L/XL 549.95. 1100/1100 L/XL 554.95. 1110/1110 L/XL 559.95. 1120/1120 L/XL 564.95. 1130/1130 L/XL 569.95. 1140/1140 L/XL 574.95. 1150/1150 L/XL 579.95. 1160/1160 L/XL 584.95. 1170/1170 L/XL 589.95. 1180/1180 L/XL 594.95. 1190/1190 L/XL 599.95. 1200/1200 L/XL 604.95. 1210/1210 L/XL 609.95. 1220/1220 L/XL 614.95. 1230/1230 L/XL 619.95. 1240/1240 L/XL 624.95. 1250/1250 L/XL 629.95. 1260/1260 L/XL 634.95. 1270/1270 L/XL 639.95. 1280/1280 L/XL 644.95. 1290/1290 L/XL 649.95. 1300/1300 L/XL 654.95. 1310/1310 L/XL 659.95. 1320/1320 L/XL 664.95. 1330/1330 L/XL 669.95. 1340/1340 L/XL 674.95. 1350/1350 L/XL 679.95. 1360/1360 L/XL 684.95. 1370/1370 L/XL 689.95. 1380/1380 L/XL 694.95. 1390/1390 L/XL 699.95. 1400/1400 L/XL 704.95. 1410/1410 L/XL 709.95. 1420/1420 L/XL 714.95. 1430/1430 L/XL 719.95. 1440/1440 L/XL 724.95. 1450/1450 L/XL 729.95. 1460/1460 L/XL 734.95. 1470/1470 L/XL 739.95. 1480/1480 L/XL 744.95. 1490/1490 L/XL 749.95. 1500/1500 L/XL 754.95. 1510/1510 L/XL 759.95. 1520/1520 L/XL 764.95. 1530/1530 L/XL 769.95. 1540/1540 L/XL 774.95. 1550/1550 L/XL 779.95. 1560/1560 L/XL 784.95. 1570/1570 L/XL 789.95. 1580/1580 L/XL 794.95. 1590/1590 L/XL 799.95. 1600/1600 L/XL 804.95. 1610/1610 L/XL 809.95. 1620/1620 L/XL 814.95. 1630/1630 L/XL 819.95. 1640/1640 L/XL 824.95. 1650/1650 L/XL 829.95. 1660/1660 L/XL 834.95. 1670/1670 L/XL 839.95. 1680/1680 L/XL 844.95. 1690/1690 L/XL 849.95. 1700/1700 L/XL 854.95. 1710/1710 L/XL 859.95. 1720/1720 L/XL 864.95. 1730/1730 L/XL 869.95. 1740/1740 L/XL 874.95. 1750/1750 L/XL 879.95. 1760/1760 L/XL 884.95. 1770/1770 L/XL 889.95. 1780/1780 L/XL 894.95. 1790/1790 L/XL 899.95. 1800/1800 L/XL 904.95. 1810/1810 L/XL 909.95. 1820/1820 L/XL 914.95. 1830/1830 L/XL 919.95. 1840/1840 L/XL 924.95. 1850/1850 L/XL 929.95. 1860/1860 L/XL 934.95. 1870/1870 L/XL 939.95. 1880/1880 L/XL 944.95. 1890/1890 L/XL 949.95. 1900/1900 L/XL 954.95. 1910/1910 L/XL 959.95. 1920/1920 L/XL 964.95. 1930/1930 L/XL 969.95. 1940/1940 L/XL 974.95. 1950/1950 L/XL 979.95. 1960/1960 L/XL 984.95. 1970/1970 L/XL 989.95. 1980/1980 L/XL 994.95. 1990/1990 L/XL 999.95. 2000/2000 L/XL 1004.95. 2010/2010 L/XL 1009.95. 2020/2020 L/XL 1014.95. 2030/2030 L/XL 1019.95. 2040/2040 L/XL 1024.95. 2050/2050 L/XL 1029.95. 2060/2060 L/XL 1034.95. 2070/2070 L/XL 1039.95. 2080/2080 L/XL 1044.95. 2090/2090 L/XL 1049.95. 2100/2100 L/XL 1054.95. 2110/2110 L/XL 1059.95. 2120/2120 L/XL 1064.95. 2130/2130 L/XL 1069.95. 2140/2140 L/XL 1074.95. 2150/2150 L/XL 1079.95. 2160/2160 L/XL 1084.95. 2170/2170 L/XL 1089.95. 2180/2180 L/XL 1094.95. 2190/2190 L/XL 1099.95. 2200/2200 L/XL 1104.95. 2210/2210 L/XL 1109.95. 2220/2220 L/XL 1114.95. 2230/2230 L/XL 1119.95. 2240/2240 L/XL 1124.95. 2250/2250 L/XL 1129.95. 2260/2260 L/XL 1134.95. 2270/2270 L/XL 1139.95. 2280/2280 L/XL 1144.95. 2290/2290 L/XL 1149.95. 2300/2300 L/XL 1154.95. 2310/2310 L/XL 1159.95. 2320/2320 L/XL 1164.95. 2330/2330 L/XL 1169.95. 2340/2340 L/XL 1174.95. 2350/2350 L/XL 1179.95. 2360/2360 L/XL 1184.95. 2370/2370 L/XL 1189.95. 2380/2380 L/XL 1194.95. 2390/2390 L/XL 1199.95. 2400/2400 L/XL 1204.95. 2410/2410 L/XL 1209.95. 2420/2420 L/XL 1214.95. 2430/2430 L/XL 1219.95. 2440/2440 L/XL 1224.95. 2450/2450 L/XL 1229.95. 2460/2460 L/XL 1234.95. 2470/2470 L/XL 1239.95. 2480/2480 L/XL 1244.95. 2490/2490 L/XL 1249.95. 2500/2500 L/XL 1254.95. 2510/2510 L/XL 1259.95. 2520/2520 L/XL 1264.95. 2530/2530 L/XL 1269.95. 2540/2540 L/XL 1274.95. 2550/2550 L/XL 1279.95. 2560/2560 L/XL 1284.95. 2570/2570 L/XL 1289.95. 2580/2580 L/XL 1294.95. 2590/2590 L/XL 1299.95. 2600/2600 L/XL 1304.95. 2610/2610 L/XL 1309.95. 2620/2620 L/XL 1314.95. 2630/2630 L/XL 1319.95. 2640/2640 L/XL 1324.95. 2650/2650 L/XL 1329.95. 2660/2660 L/XL 1334.95. 2670/2670 L/XL 1339.95. 2680/2680 L/XL 1344.95. 2690/2690 L/XL 1349.95. 2700/2700 L/XL 1354.95. 2710/2710 L/XL 1359.95. 2720/2720 L/XL 1364.95. 2730/2730 L/XL 1369.95. 2740/2740 L/XL 1374.95. 2750/2750 L/XL 1379.95. 2760/2760 L/XL 1384.95. 2770/2770 L/XL 1389.95. 2780/2780 L/XL 1394.95. 2790/2790 L/XL 1399.95. 2800/2800 L/XL 1404.95. 2810/2810 L/XL 1409.95. 2820/2820 L/XL 1414.95. 2830/2830 L/XL 1419.95. 2840/2840 L/XL 1424.95. 2850/2850 L/XL 1429.95. 2860/2860 L/XL 1434.95. 2870/2870 L/XL 1439.95. 2880/2880 L/XL 1444.95. 2890/2890 L/XL 1449.95. 2900/2900 L/XL 1454.95. 2910/2910 L/XL 1459.95. 2920/2920 L/XL 1464.95. 2930/2930 L/XL 1469.95. 2940/2940 L/XL 1474.95. 2950/2950 L/XL 1479.95. 2960/2960 L/XL 1484.95. 2970/2970 L/XL 1489.95. 2980/2980 L/XL 1494.95. 2990/2990 L/XL 1499.95. 3000/3000 L/XL 1504.95. 3010/3010 L/XL 1509.95. 3020/3020 L/XL 1514.95. 3030/3030 L/XL 1519.95. 3040/3040 L/XL 1524.95. 3050/3050 L/XL 1529.95. 3060/3060 L/XL 1534.95. 3070/3070 L/XL 1539.95. 3080/3080 L/XL 1544.95. 3090/3090 L/XL 1549.95. 3100/3100 L/XL 1554.95. 3110/3110 L/XL 1559.95. 3120/3120 L/XL 1564.95. 3130/3130 L/XL 1569.95. 3140/3140 L/XL 1574.95. 3150/3150 L/XL 1579.95. 3160/3160 L/XL 1584.95. 3170/3170 L/XL 1589.95. 3180/3180 L/XL 1594.95. 3190/3190 L/XL 1599.95. 3200/3200 L/XL 1604.95. 3210/3210 L/XL 1609.95. 3220/3220 L/XL 1614.95. 3230/3230 L/XL 1619.95. 3240/3240 L/XL 1624.95. 3250/3250 L/XL 1629.95. 3260/3260 L/XL 1634.95. 3270/3270 L/XL 1639.95. 3280/3280 L/XL 1644.95. 3290/3290 L/XL 1649.95. 3300/3300 L/XL 1654.95. 3310/3310 L/XL 1659.95. 3320/3320 L/XL 1664.95. 3330/3330 L/XL 1669.95. 3340/3340 L/XL 1674.95. 3350/3350 L/XL 1679.95. 3360/3360 L/XL 1684.95. 3370/3370 L/XL 1689.95. 3380/3380 L/XL 1694.95. 3390/3390 L/XL 1699.95. 3400/3400 L/XL 1704.95. 3410/3410 L/XL 1709.95. 3420/3420 L/XL 1714.95. 3430/3430 L/XL 1719.95. 3440/3440 L/XL 1724.95. 3450/3450 L/XL 1729.95. 3460/3460 L/XL 1734.95. 3470/3470 L/XL 1739.95. 3480/3480 L/XL 1744.95. 3490/3490 L/XL 1749.95. 3500/3500 L/XL 1754.95. 3510/3510 L/XL 1759.95. 3520/3520 L/XL 1764.95. 3530/3530 L/XL 1769.95. 3540/3540 L/XL 1774.95. 3550/3550 L/XL 1779.95. 3560/3560 L/XL 1784.95. 3570/3570 L/XL 1789.95. 3580/3580 L/XL 1794.95. 3590/3590 L/XL 1799.95. 3600/3600 L/XL 1804.95. 3610/3610 L/XL 1809.95. 3620/3620 L/XL 1814.95. 3630/3630 L/XL 1819.95. 3640/3640 L/XL 1824.95. 3650/3650 L/XL 1829.95. 3660/3660 L/XL 1834.95. 3670/3670 L/XL 1839.95. 3680/3680 L/XL 1844.95. 3690/3690 L/XL 1849.95. 3700/3700 L/XL 1854.95. 3710/3710 L/XL 1859.95. 3720/3720 L/XL 1864.95. 3730/3730 L/XL 1869.95. 3740/3740 L/XL 1874.95. 3750/3750 L/XL 1879.95. 3760/3760 L/XL 1884.95. 3770/3770 L/XL 1889.95. 3780/3780 L/XL 1894.95. 3790/3790 L/XL 1899.95. 3800/3800 L/XL 1904.95. 3810/3810 L/XL 1909.95. 3820/3820 L/XL 1914.95. 3830/3830 L/XL 1919.95. 3840/3840 L/XL 1924.95. 3850/3850 L/XL 1929.95. 3860/3860 L/XL 1934.95. 3870/3870 L/XL 1939.95. 3880/3880 L/XL 1944.95. 3890/3890 L/XL 1949.95. 3900/3900 L/XL 1954.95. 3910/3910 L/XL 1959.95. 3920/3920 L/XL 1964.95. 3930/3930</p>	

هكذا من الأصل

The rhythm of life

When members of an orchestra invite young patients to make music, the subdued sounds of the hospital give way to joy. By Clare Garner

THE CHILDREN sat in a circle, wired to their drips, looking wan and apprehensive. Some were more severely ill than others, but they had in common the fact that they were sick.

"I want you to try and imagine a very different scene to the one you're in now," ventured Duke Dobing, a flautist with the City of London Sinfonia. "It takes place in ancient Greece, hundreds of years ago, when there was no electricity, no radio, no television and, no music."

Young Daniel Flaherty's head crept up from underneath the sheets like a tortoise coming out of his shell. He propped himself up in bed and tuned in. For a hour last Tuesday afternoon children from the paediatric ward in Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, in west London, quite forgot they were ill. The chapel where they were congregated was transformed into a communal concert hall, as a cacophony of sounds swirled about the ceiling and the children gave themselves up to the music.

This was "The Music that Heals", a one-hour workshop run by four musicians from the City of London Sinfonia orchestra. They are run monthly, for children, the elderly, expectant and new mothers, and HIV patients as a therapeutic session.

Duke sat in the middle of the room, relating the Greek legend of Pan and Syrinx, just as a father would read a bedtime story. His aim, however, was not to send the children to sleep, but to awaken them from their ill state

and spark their imaginations.

Pan, the god of fields and woods, fell in love with Syrinx, a nymph, but Syrinx "didn't feel the same at all". Syrinx turned herself into a reed in order to hide from Pan. And then Pan heard something he had never heard before - the wind blowing through the reeds. He picked a reed, not realising it was the very one which Syrinx had turned herself into. "Pan at one go had invented the flute and music," concluded Duke.

Along with the flute and music, Pan unwittingly invented a medicine. The therapeutic power of music is well-documented. It was first described in the Bible, when David played the lyre to Saul and he was "refreshed, made well and the evil spirit departed". Even 2,000 years ago, flute-playing was said to ease sciatica; modern research has since suggested that music releases endorphins, the brain's painkillers.

Back in the workshop, it fell to the children to set the story of Pan and Syrinx to music. "Do you think you could make some hoofy noises with that?" asked Duke, selecting some brightly coloured "kids' bongos" from the collection of percussion instruments spilled out on the floor. "We thought this would be good river music," suggested Christine Jackson, a cellist with the City of London Sinfonia, wheeling a xylophone in the direction of Daniel's bed.

Daniel, six, looked distinctly dubious. He slunk back, almost in danger of disappearing beneath the covers again. But his curiosity got the better of



Doing the rivers: Daniel Flaherty turns his hand to percussion based on the legend of Pan

Photograph: Rui Xavier

him. He tentatively stroked the golden tubes with his fingertips and was rewarded with a singing, tinkling sound. He did it again. And again and again.

Daniel was not alone in being shy at first, but with a little encouragement the children all banged and shook their instruments, sometimes at a fast and furious pace, and at other times gently. "Now we need our mysterious water music on its own," instructed Duke. Daniel responded by running his fingers up and down the xylophone with huge, expansive sweeps, lost in music.

"What have you forgotten?" asked Duke. "What about making noise with your mouths?" At once they embarked on a chorus of frog noises, swishing

reed noises and whistling. The occasional interruption of a beep from a drip was the only reality check.

Suddenly, one boy looked desperate. His handaged arm was hurting and the musicians were quick to catch on. He put down his instrument, but he didn't want to leave. Instead he sat and listened, quietly, with a far-away expression.

Next came the story of the hare and the tortoise. "What do you think you can learn from that story?" asked Christine, after telling the tale. "I'll tell you: that some of us take longer and work harder. Some of us are lazy. The people who work harder and keep going, in the very end they are better." Such a moral was

poignant in the circumstances. At the end of the hour-long workshop Duke thanked everybody for being "a fantastic orchestra". The children smiled.

They were exhausted, but contented. Daniel said that he had been happiest "when I was doing the rivers," but that he had also enjoyed "the rabbit one".

Lily, 13, who had had an "external fixator" taken out of her leg the previous day, said she had had reservations about coming to the workshop. "I thought it would be a bit boring," she said, "but it was quite nice actually, playing lots of music and that. When you start playing music, you get into it. It was quite nice hearing it and knowing the different stories."

The music had distracted her, she added. "I didn't think about my leg at all," she said. "I just carried on with the music. It sort of relaxes you."

The hospital workshop is just one example of the activities undertaken by orchestras across Britain, be it in hospices, prisons, residential homes or schools. During National Orchestra Week, which runs from 9-15 March, more than 30 of the country's professional orchestras will perform to the public free as a mark of their commitment to interacting with the community.

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, which opened in 1993, is the first new NHS teaching hospital to be built in London since the Seventies. It is unusual in that it integrates the visual

and performing arts into healthcare. All the funding for the arts is privately raised from individuals, businesses and charitable trusts.

Susan Loppert, director of the arts project at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, has masterminded the interactive arts programme. "What we're doing is not therapy," said Ms Loppert. "They are not music therapists, but it's therapeutic. It's part of the philosophy of the hospital, which is positive and uplifting."

To find out more about orchestral activities in your area, ring Freephone Talking Pages on 0800 600930, and ask for the Association of British Orchestras' National Orchestra Week.

A Porton patient for seven days' pay

WHEN the Government announced it was opening a telephone inquiry line for the 20,000 servicemen who acted as ill-informed guinea pigs at Porton Down Chemical and Biological Defence Establishment in the Fifties, I decided to call. It was my chance to discover what I was exposed to as an 18-year-old national serviceman.

It was in 1952 at an RAF base just outside York that I read that an extra week's pay would be given to volunteers willing to go for a week to an establishment on Salisbury Plain. And to get there meant travelling first to London, my home town, providing me with the opportunity of two consecutive

BRYAN BREED

weekend leaves. It was in that casual manner that thousands of young men endangered their well-being. Some have maintained that subsequent illnesses have been linked to their experience.

There was no verbal mention of nasty things like nerve or any other toxic gas, chemical or biological warfare, but together with the 20 or so other fresh-faced youths I joined that Sunday in deepest Wiltshire I was asked to sign a piece of paper stating that I was offering my services willingly.

That first evening we attended the Naafi and spent some of our extra week's pay on a concoction called black velvet. There was scant discussion of why we were there.

On the first occasion I was called into the laboratories I was asked to sit outside a chamber the size of a small room and breathe some through a mouthpiece which protruded from its glass wall. On the second occasion, two or three days later, I went for a blood test. I felt nothing except the prick of a needle.

The guinea pigs have now been told they will be sent a summary of their records, providing it is considered that doing so will not breach security. I feel fine, even nearly 50 years later, and I am merely curious about my own particular inhalation, but the helpline operator said she is doubtful whether they would tell me what it was.

I suppose, speaking personally, if you've waited all those years to know, another year or two won't matter. But for others among the 20,000 it might well be a matter of life or death, or at least a more comfortable last few years.

The hotline is 0845 6039140.

As an emergency, an itch doesn't come up to scratch



DR PHIL HAMMOND

"MORNING Mr Jacobs. What can I do for you?"

"Itchy bum."

"Splendid. Were you aware that Saturday morning surgery is for emergencies only?"

"Yes."

"Well in my book, that ain't an emergency. Bum on fire, fine. Bum concealing baby crocodile, fair enough. But itchy bum, no. Good day."

"Oh you think you're so clever, don't you?"

"Clever enough to know you can wait until Monday."

"But this is an emergency. You told my son he had worms."

"Your son does have worms. He brought one in to show me in a Playdoh jar."

"I don't believe you."

"Well I haven't kept it - it was only a threadworm. Nothing to lose any sleep over."

"How can you say that? You told my wife the whole family was probably infected - I haven't slept since, thinking of all those horrible little things crawling around inside me."

"They're only in your towels."

"You told my wife that the eggs can get under the fingernails."

"So?"

"Well, the wife's got long fingernails and she likes to draw blood during sex."

"Anywhere special?"

"My back, mainly. So she could have passed eggs straight into my bloodstream, right?"

"Look, there are worms that live in the bloodstream - such

as the dreaded schistosome fluke - but threadworms only survive in the intestines."

"How do you know it was a threadworm?"

"It looked like one."

"But you didn't send it to the lab. for confirmation?"

"No."

"So you were guessing?"

"Look, it wasn't a fluke."

"Why not?"

"Because flukes are flatworms with oral and ventral suckers. This worm was a thread."

"It could have been a fluke fluke."

"Also, schistosomes are unheard of in Walthamstow, whereas threadworms aren't."

"So how did Lance get it?"

"Probably from nursery."

"That's a shame."

"Why?"

"Because he's settled in really well at Mrs Pope's."

"You don't have to take him out of it."

"No son of mine's learning to read in a woman's hole."

"Look, threadworms are no big deal. Five-hundred-million people on this planet have got them as we speak. Many have no symptoms at all and others just have an itchy bum."

"But surely Mrs Pope should have spotted the worm in Lance's lunch?"

"You don't swallow the eggs."

"And where are the eggs?"

"Like I said, under someone's nails."

"How do they get there?"

"Well, the adult worm lives in the large bowel but pops out to lay eggs around the anus."

"I've heard enough."

"But the good news is that nearly all patients are cured by a single dose of wormicide - and you can buy it over the counter to avoid troubling your doctor on a Saturday morning."

"I don't like giving the kids drugs."

"Well, if you cut everyone's nails, wash the eggs off bedclothes and towels and have scrupulous personal hygiene, the worms die out after a month or so."

"That's a bit of a fag."

"Or just live and let live."

"But I'm itching like mad. Does that mean I've definitely got them?"

"No, it could just be that the suggestion you might have them has brought it on. If you can't find a worm in your stool, the best way of making the diagnosis is to sleep with Sellotape around your tail end, to catch the eggs as the worm pops out at night to lay them. Now, if that's all..."

"Do you sell Sellotape?"

"No. Bye bye."

"One more thing. Why did you call the schistosome dread?"

"Good grief. Because the eggs get stuck absolutely everywhere - in your bladder, in your liver, in your lungs, in your brain ... it's not pretty ... Mr Jacobs? Come back! Look, I've got some cracking photos of it in Post Mortem Weekly ..."

WE SPEND 95p IN EVERY POUND ON PRACTICAL RESEARCH

To help or send a donation contact 43 GREAT ORMOND STREET LONDON W1N 3AJ 0171 405 0101

Form 100/100/100/100

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND

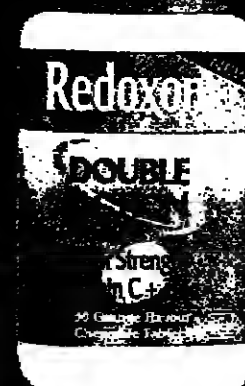
Helping leukaemia, myeloma, and lymphoma

TAKE DOUBLE ACTION THIS WINTER

TAKE NEW REDOXON DOUBLE ACTION

New Redoxon Double Action has doubled up for the winter. Firstly with high strength vitamin C. And secondly with the mineral zinc. The new Double Action combination helps maintain the immune system's resistance to infections like coughs and colds. So, whatever other action you take this winter, take Redoxon Double Action Vitamin C+Zinc. Redoxon Double Action Vitamin C+Zinc.

VITAMIN C+ZINC MAY BENEFIT SOME YOUNG WOMEN.



Mr Straw should think again. The judiciary has a real role to play



EDITOR: ROSIE BOYCOTT
DEPUTY EDITOR: CHRIS BLACKHURST
ADDRESS: 1 CANADA SQUARE,
CANARY WHARF,
LONDON E14 5DL
TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000
OR 0171 345 2000
FAX: 0171 293 2435
OR 0171 345 2435

Jack Straw thinks British policemen are wonderful. So wonderful, indeed, that he is minded to turn down the Hillsborough Victims' Support Group in its demand for a fresh inquiry into the stewarding of the ill-fated game by the South Yorkshire police force. The Home Secretary, however, does not think British judges are anything like as wonderful. He stood up in the Commons yesterday to say as much. Of course he did not use those exact words – he does, after all, rely on judges to make the criminal justice system work. What he said was that British judges cannot be trusted, they don't have much common sense. That, at least, seems a reasonable interpretation of his remarks about the press, privacy and the Human Rights Bill.

The European Convention on Human Rights, which is being incorporated into British law, contains two clauses especially relevant to the activities of the media and the citizen. One broadly asserts the right of citizens to privacy (especially against the

state) and the other asserts the right of the press to report widely and freely (especially against abuses of power by the state). For every claim a public figure might make under the privacy clause, the press has a valid counter-claim under the press freedom clause... provided reporting has been in the public interest. There is a lot of legitimate ground between the two. "I think," said Lord Bingham, Lord Chief Justice, last autumn, "this is difficult and debatable territory." "Quite so: the courts are going to have to weigh contending principles and make fine judgments according to the merits of the cases before them. Is there really any good reason for worrying about the fitness of judges to effect a balance?"

There is a case for saying we should not wait for the haphazard process of building a privacy – and press freedom – law by fits and starts. A draft Bill promoted by newspaper editors is in circulation which seeks simultaneously to establish a right of privacy and a right of investigation, in

the public interest. Mr Straw would win friends – not least in our quarter – if he picked that up and ran with it. Instead he seems to be going off at half cock. To judge from yesterday, he has been persuaded by tendentious and self-righteous arguments from right-wing newspapers and the right-wing peer who heads the Press Complaints Commission, Lord Wakeham, that a "right to privacy" is somehow dangerous. The courts – this presumably will be the effect of a proposed government amendment to the Human Rights Bill – must not be allowed to define the PCC as a public body and entertain suits which try to force the PCC to uphold its own rules about invasion of privacy by newspapers.

If that is the Government's position, it is half-baked. It is no excuse that Mr Straw's boss, the Prime Minister, seems to have been nobbled by ecclesiastical interests who seem to think, in their divine wisdom, that bishops and ministers do not have nor should be troubled by human rights. The

Government seems to be forgetting what it said, eloquently, in Opposition.

The problem is why people are motivated to go to the courts for redress. Judges are invited to adjudicate cases of invasion of privacy because citizens despair of the political process. It is when people decide, rightly or wrongly, that they are not going to get justice from Parliament or government offices that they turn to the courts. During the Thatcher and Major eras, Labour spokespeople applauded this development, and the growth of judicial review that it encouraged. They implied that if and when they got to power, people would once again start trusting the political system and so the call on the courts to redress wrongs would be lessened. Will they? The answer lies in Labour's hands: the faster it gets on with the job of parliamentary reform and modernisation, the smaller the scope for the judges.

Litigiousness is not some epidemic disease. Britain does not have to go down the

American road and see its social and political life corrupted by a plague of court cases. Take schools, recently infested by lawyers. Having rid them of corporal punishment, parents and teachers were left confused over exactly when and how discipline demanded "force" to be used on recalcitrant pupils. ("Pupils" these days is a category including hulking great teenagers of both sexes, strong and often angry: pity their teachers.)

Hence the new guidelines published yesterday. These will never be enough to prevent a bloody-minded parent going to law. None the less, they represent the way forward. The Government is making positive law in order to clarify right and wrong; it must also seek to alter the climate of opinion, to carry parents and teachers (and children) along with it. Nothing here is going to stop anyone seeking to apply the provisions of the Human Rights Bill – but they will affect the judicial and social climate within which they are actionable.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor
and include a daytime telephone number.
Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.
Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

LETTERS

EU arms code

TODAY, Britain and France table their proposal for a European Union Code of Conduct on arms exports. Could Europe finally be about to place principles before profit in decisions on arms exports?

EU countries account for 40 per cent of all arms exports to the developing world. All too often, countries suffering from dictatorial regimes, poor human rights records or other forms of social instability have filled their armouries with European technology. In fact, developing nations have increasingly become the weapons industry's main target market. The easy availability of European arms has enticed many Third World nations to spend more on weapons than on health and education programmes, further depriving already impoverished and suffering populations.

We firmly believe that controlling the irresponsible sale of weapons is central to alleviating many of the devastating international social problems we face today. For this reason, a demanding European Code of Conduct would be of great importance. The British government must be commended for its initiative.

But if the Code is to bring real reforms, it must go still further. We are concerned that there are a number of loopholes in the proposed country criteria. To be truly effective, the Code must have guidelines which are more restrictive and explicit; in addition, it must be accompanied by clear consultation procedures, common end-use controls and increased parliamentary scrutiny and accountability.

We consider a demanding European Code of Conduct to be an essential building block for the International Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers – a proposal which we Nobel Peace laureates have formulated with fourteen of our colleagues. As the EU begins debating the British and French proposal, we greatly hope that they will seize the opportunity to make a significant contribution to international human rights, development and security by insisting on a strict Code of Conduct that will serve as a model for the rest of the world.

Dr OSCAR ARIAS
Nobel Peace Prize Winner 1987
Professor JOSEPH ROTBLAT
Nobel Peace Prize Winner 1995
JOSE RAMOS-HOIXA
Nobel Peace Prize Winner 1996
London WC2

Strike on Iraq

ROBIN COOK ("We must act", 14 February) asserts that the aim of any military action against Iraq would be to diminish Saddam Hussein's ability to deploy, conceal and recreate his chemical and biological weapons.

Does the Foreign Secretary seriously believe that such military action will break Saddam and force him to comply with the US-dominated inspection teams? Think how many can be killed by a single dumb bomb and think of the fateful consequences of a sustained military strike for the innocent Iraqi people.

It is impossible to eliminate Saddam's weapons of mass destruction without eliminating Saddam himself. How can you be sure that Saddam's ability to produce biological weapons is diminished when these weapons can be produced and concealed in room-sized basement laboratories?

The Foreign Secretary himself said on 20 January that Iraq

is still manufacturing enough anthrax each week to fill two missile warheads. This production was continuing while the inspectors had been uncovering and dismantling these weapons of mass destruction. Saddam has already spent years evading the inspectors and has forgone billions of dollars in oil revenue that he might have had. So he will continue to evade and a military strike is not going to stop him. Clearly the best alternative would be to have inspectors who can inspect, i.e. broadly based and not dominated by representatives from the US.

In the long term a new political strategy is needed. This strategy should be based on supporting a democratic alternative to Saddam, no more punishment to the Iraqi people, implementation of UNSC Resolution 688, trying Saddam as a war criminal and helping the Iraqi people to hold free elections.

Dr MOHAMED AL-RUBAI
Iraqi Democratic Movement
Woodford Green, Essex

AS in the First World War, the aims of war against Iraq are clear but the means are so hopelessly ill-adapted to achieving them that the war itself seems pointless.

It is not hard moreover to discern an irrational motive – a personal animus against Saddam Hussein and a desire to inflict humiliation on him regardless of the effects on others, of the degree of international support and of longer-term policy priorities. Only this is it possible to make sense of the US refusal to concede an inch on sanctions – the obvious diplomatic way out. Personal vendettas are no substitute for a proper policy.

NICK MARTIN-CLARK
London N3

ROBIN COOK's article contains a breathtaking assertion: that "the stability of the entire region is at risk" from Saddam Hussein. I doubt it; but it certainly would be if the knee-jerk boys in the US get their way and Saddam is toppled. There would be an unholy battle over the corpse of Iraq with Islamic

fundamentalists, Sunnis, the Shias and the Kurds bidding for support. Talk about the mother of all wars...

KEN CLARK
Bedford

MANY people, to judge from letters in your newspaper, feel upset that military action against Iraq is being considered.

Never mind the starvation and deprivation that the Iraqi people endure, Saddam Hussein continues to build up his personal wealth regardless. So there may be some bombing of his seven (or is it eight?) palaces. I have no problem with this.

SIMON GARDINER
Croydon, Surrey

Privacy law

YOUR report "PM against privacy law" (12 February) reveals some very confused thinking on this topic at the heart of government.

Upon the incorporation into British domestic law of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), there

will be both a right of privacy and a right to freedom of expression. UK judges will have no choice but to balance these rights in any particular decision, effectively creating a tort of breach of privacy with a defence of legitimate public interest; in so doing, they will have regard to the existing body of case law under the ECHR.

In extreme cases, where damages would be an insufficient remedy, the court could prevent publication by injunction; but all the experience of defamation law suggests that such cases would be rare.

It would be wholly wrong for such an extreme power of prior restraint to be exercisable by a voluntary body such as the Press Complaints Commission (PCC). Indeed, following the incorporation of the ECHR into UK domestic law, the usefulness of the PCC may well be called into question generally, as Sir Louis Blom-Cooper rightly observed. "Self-regulation will always protect the self."

PHILIP GOLDENBERG
Woking, Surrey

Cancer treatment

WE are assessing the impact of receiving aromatherapy massage or relaxation therapy, used alongside conventional anti-cancer treatments, on patients' quality of life. We are not attempting to see if these therapies provide an alternative to conventional anti-cancer treatments. So we are keen to redress any misunderstanding conveyed by the headline "Natural therapies to be tested as cancer cure" (23 January), describing our planned trial. In fact, all the patients being studied will have advanced cancer, i.e. their cancer cannot be cured.

Dr SUSIE WILKINSON
Director of Studies, Liverpool
Marie Curie Centre
Professor AMANDA J RAMIREZ
Professor of Liaison Psychiatry,
Guy's & St Thomas' Medical
& Dental School
Dr JANE MAHER
Senior Lecturer in Clinical
Oncology, Mount Vernon
Cancer Centre

Save the arts

OXFAM's protest about tax deductions for arts projects (letter, 13 February) refers to current patterns of charitable giving. The present balance of giving to the top 500 voluntary charities is dramatically weighted against arts, recreation, youth and education. Together their annual revenue amounts to £54m – just 3 per cent of the total of £1.76bn. International aid receives £378m and animal protection £133m.

To redress this balance Lord Birkett and myself, and many others, lobbied for several years for a national arts lottery. Its aim was to bring to the UK the enhanced emotional life which the practice of the arts can help to stimulate. In addition we sought a balanced physical life, with enough recreation to keep people healthy, and thus reduce the state's huge health bill.

To see £133m going to animal protection but so little to the shaping of balanced lives here is to understand why our crime rate is so high. Young people without a habitual pattern of filling their spare time with useful hobbies, artistic expression and sport can fall into drink, drugs and criminality.

Now is the time to redress this balance, which is one reason for the formation of our charity. Oxfam's work is invaluable, but it needs to be complemented by the protection of the quality of living habits for all here and now, which can transform the social habits of the whole country.

DENIS VAUGHAN
Executive Director
Council for the Advancement
of the Arts, Recreation and
Education
London WC2

Dangerous women

ON learning that the British Boxing Board considers women unfit to fight because they become "emotional and vulnerable during periods" ("PMT makes women unfit to box", 13 February), I found myself worrying about the clearly unsuitable jobs that women have been allowed to get away with for so long, such as supervising and educating young children, ministering to critically ill patients, and operating potentially dangerous electrical equipment such as cookers, irons and sewing machines.

SHIRLEY COULSON
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire

My philosophy is to get your kit off – for operational reasons of course



MILES KINGTON

From time to time I like to bring you a round-up of new words or new usages in current English, a kind of part-work glossary, and I think it is time to offer a few more examples of the way in which English is changing as we move towards the millennium.

Absolutely: A mild form of "yes". Documentaries: A kind of television programme about a famous person, of whom there is so little film footage available that an actor has to be hired to impersonate him.

Editor: 1) In television and film, a very minor person whose job it is to make sure that all the pictures sort of fit together. 2) In radio, a very important person who controls *The Archers*. 3) In the press, a very very important person who does exactly what the proprietor wishes.

Epic: An adjective meaning, filmed in several different countries at enormous expense. Icon: 1) A small drawing on a computer screen. 2) Any person whose great days

are over but who is still admired by any other person, as in "Shirley Bassey is a gay icon". "Vidal Sassoon is a hairdressing icon". "The Queen is a royal icon", etc.

Iconic: Said of a comedy show which is slightly different from its predecessors.

Irisht: Name given to new pubs with shiny wooden facades in Rome, Tel Aviv, Beirut, Stockholm, etc.

Islam: A kind of religion whose adherents believe that God listens to them five times a day.

Kit: Trendy new term for clothes, as in "Get your kit off". **Kit and the Widow:** Presumably, widow's weeds.

Literature: This used to mean a whole collection of great novels, poems, plays, etc., but now it means a small pile of brochures, as in "Shall I send you some literature on that?"

Mic: A new abbreviation for "microphone". It is starting to take over from "mike", as in "Open Mic contest". Nobody

quite knows what has caused this development, as "mike" was a perfectly good abbreviation and did at least look like the way it was said, which "mic" doesn't. Maybe it has come about because "mic" is the written abbreviation on tape recorders.

Millennium: AD 2000 is said to be the millennium, because it is the year that marks the end of the 20th century. However, the original meaning of "millennium" was 1,000 years, so whatever we are celebrating must be something that happened 1,000 years ago. However, nothing happened in AD 1000. The only thing that anyone really seems to want to celebrate is the birth of Christ, which was 2,000 years ago. So millennium must now mean "a period of two thousand years".

Mobile: This used to be a kind of revolving sculpture that dangled from the ceiling, but is now just a toy telephone.

Monitor: A verb meaning, To ignore. To

do nothing about, to treat with apathy, as in "We are monitoring the situation on a 24-hour basis".

Operational: Unfathomable, unknowable, mystic, awesome, as in the announcement: "We are sorry for the late running of this train. This is due to operational reasons."

Oxymoron: Sudden fashionable alternative for "contradiction in terms". Philosophy: The thinking behind a football manager's actions. Eg. "My philosophy is to win matches by beating the other side, but I think it's important to entertain as well, and also to buy a foreign footballer with a funny name whom the home crowd can become fond of".

Power: This is the new term which has replaced "On/Off" on machines.

Quote: This is quite different from a quotation. A quotation is something witty or stylish which has been repeated so often it has

gone into the language. A quote is a brief soundbite from someone famous which is picked up by a researcher and handed to an interviewer for discussion, as when Ned Sherrin says to a visiting actor: "I rather liked your quote the other day when you said that playing Hamlet was like trying to remember the sort of person you were 10 years ago", and the actor can't remember having said it and doesn't have the faintest what it means, but has to discuss it anyway, because it's a "quote".

Scientist: One who can explain how life began 10 million years ago but has no idea how BSE began 10 years ago.

Something: A curious expression which used to be a swear word (as in "You something something!") but is now a number (as in "Thirty-something" or "Forty-something").

Tribute: An obituary on television. (To be continued.)

The Tories take a few baby steps towards democracy



**DONALD
MACINTYRE**
PARTY REFORMS
HAVE EFFECTS

It's a curiosity of the rules unveiled yesterday for electing the Conservative leader that had they been in force when John Major stood down, William Hague might not have had the job at all. Ken Clarke was easily the most recognisable of the available candidates outside Westminster; he came out well on top in the polling of constituency chairmen, and would probably be Leader of the Opposition under the one member one vote ballot envisaged in yesterday's blueprint of a new party organisation. And a lot would therefore now be different – not least the view Tony Blair would be taking of how difficult it would be to win a referendum on a single currency. This may look like a pointless "what if", to be left to the seductive world of virtual history. But it illustrates an important truth about the restructuring of the party achieved by William Hague in a few months as leader. The changes will have a real world effect quite out of proportion to the scant attention they will receive outside the Conservative Party at a time when that party is deemed not to matter.

They also, broadly, live up to the claims Hague is making to be an unexpectedly fast moving and determined party reformer. In organisation, if not yet in policy, Hague has shown that he has learnt a good deal from the cautionary tale of Labour's attempted – and very nearly successful – suicide by slow poisoning after the 1979 election defeat. He has moved a party with not the slightest culture and history of membership democracy to a one member one vote system. And he has done it without the painful transitional stage in which power in the Labour Party in the early 1980s was seized from the MPs only to be handed to the most determined activists instead. It's easy to mock some of the conclusions of the so-called membership survey which preceded yesterday's paper. It's hardly surprising, for example, that 98 per cent of Tory members agreed "that a Single Party should be created with one constitution and common standards of performance and integrity". It's rather more so that even 2 per cent were prepared to flirt with the implicit alternative, that it would be better for Conservatism to be several parties with conflicting constitutions and varying tolerances of incompetence and corruption. But behind these banalities lurks an impressive effort to revitalise a desperately aged and shrunken party in which Hague has taken on some of its most entrenched interests – including a deeply self-important backbench parliamentary leadership – and emerged in most cases unscathed.

A lot of this, of course, was borrowed directly from modernised Labour and from the Liberal Democrats. Both of these had long realised that you don't recruit to a modern political party unless the members have a share of the power in return. True,

the main change is limited to the election by the full membership of the leader from a shortlist of two chosen by the MPs. And yes, despite claims to the contrary from Hague's circle, the new system is likely to make it somewhat more difficult to unseat the leader. First, 15 per cent of MPs – anonymously if they wish – have to seek a no confidence ballot, and then the leader has to go if he fails to secure a simple majority – and will not be able to stand in the subsequent election. But given that the membership tend to favour the incumbent – and may therefore pick the potential successor politically closest to him or her – some of those most hostile to an unpopular leader may, paradoxically, be wariest of replacing him. What's more, the very fact that the membership will now have a voice may make the parliamentary party more cautious. But that hardly makes Hague invulnerable (disastrous results even in next year's European elections could put him in some danger) or wrong to bring the members into a choice which neither of the main parties now leaves to its MPs.

In other cases the internal democracy may be more Leninist than real. But that is hardly so different from Labour. The plebiscite on the manifesto will be, like Labour's, a demand by the leadership for endorsement by acclaim from a wider membership of proposals over which it has had only the most limited influence. (Given the vociferousness of the pro-EMU minority in the party, it may actually be a rather livelier affair than Labour's was before the 1997 election.) Democratic centralism lives too, in a practical and little noticed proposal designed to ensure that wholly unsuitable candidates are not picked by local parties in by-elections. Just as the Labour NEC can impose shortlists, so Conservative Central Office will now provide – for the first time – a list of selected candidates from which local parties have to choose. Although constituencies parties will be able to seek approval for a favoured local candidate this is a limited but significant erosion – entirely consistent with New Labour behaviour – of constituency autonomy.

Labour yesterday made a great deal of how the changes would not include one member one vote elections to the party Board – the nearest equivalent to the NEC – or to the party conference. And it's a sign of the cultural resistance to internal democracy in the Tory party that the survey exposed only limited demand for it. But the Labour attack neatly glosses over the fact that both the NEC and the party conference are becoming, by Tony Blair's explicit design, less rather than more influential in the formulation of policy. There is another reason, too, why Labour may seek to mute its criticism of Hague's new proposals: by avoiding a complex and inherently unstable electoral college for the party leadership elections, Hague has been able to boast that the electoral system will genuinely be one member one vote. Labour's, by contrast, still includes a 33.3 per cent share of the vote in leadership elections for the trade unions. One effect of Hague's changes will be to make, once again, the institutional influence of the unions in the Labour Party an issue of public debate.

It used to be said that Margaret Thatcher's reforms – particularly, but not only, those which democratised the trade unions – helped to save the Labour Party from itself. The changes which Hague announced yesterday are a necessary but not a sufficient condition of a recovery which cannot yet be guaranteed. But it may also be that – this time by example – Labour's modernisation will in turn, and in time, help to save Conservatism from itself.

A Cassandra who had much to teach an aspiring war reporter



**ANNE
MCELVOY**
WOMEN AT
THE FRONT

Like a lot of first-time war reporters, I set off for my first battlefield in the disintegrating Yugoslavia with Martha Gellhorn in my mind and my luggage. My mother had given me a dog-eared copy of *A Stricken Field* as a kind of talisman because she associated her with survival.

When people have that quality, it is hard to believe that they are mortal. One of Martha's closest friends said of her yesterday, "I just never thought she'd die." This was her ninetieth year. But somehow, dying did not become her.

In *The Face of War* she wrote, "War is a malignant disease, an idiosyncrasy, a prison, and the pain it causes is beyond telling or imagining; but war was our condition and our history, the place we had to live in." It still is. She left us on the brink of yet another war and we can already write the script she knew so well from Spain, from the Second World War and Vietnam – cratered earth, suffering civilians, human shields, bombs, bombs and more bombs. For all the talk of surgical war and precision targeting – "official devil" – she called it – the results on the ground are remarkably unchanged.

It is the eternal, messy, uncontrollable quality of modern warfare that she evoked so well – that and the fact that whatever the rights and wrongs of a particular conflict, we fail our fellow men and women if we do not look upon the human horrors as well as the victories and defeats of conflict.

Her idea of the most immoral war was one in which the outside world does not get to know the fate of the casualties.

Her subject was not only war: it was the people of war, the civilians caught up in the strategy of generals. "I thought it would be fine," she wrote in 1939, "if the ones who order the bombing and do the bombing would walk on the ground some time and see what it is like." She had an amazing capacity to retain scores of images in her mind at once from a place she had been in for a short length of time and then to string them together in a coherent whole. Not since Joseph

Conrad has anyone combined the skills of novelist and reporter so productively.

In later life, she remarked that she belonged to the "Federation of Cassandras", for she had come to have little faith in the ability of journalists to prevent evils. Still, she had "no time for that objectivity shit", and expected reporters to make moral judgements on what they saw. The responsibility to report remained, nonetheless, and she advised newcomers "to limit yourself to what you see and hear and not suppress and invent".

To that extent, she was a product of the photographic age (and she loved photography). For her, the reporter was the written equivalent of the camera's shutter. The immediacy is apparent from the first page of any report of hers you read; her technique of heaping images fast, on top of each other, looks easy – until you try it. Sitting in the restaurant of the Esplanade hotel in Croatia in 1991 reading *A Stricken Field*, it was eerie how the mood recalled the novel's powerful opening description of a hotel dining room on the eve of war in Europe 40 years before: the sickly excitement, the competition for sources, the hum of egos; the hyperactive, edgy atmosphere. The most fitting collective noun for a group of journalists holed up together is an insecurity.

As a role model for women journalists, she was unbeatable. When I first tried to freelance from Eastern Europe as a student, I found a world of journalistic bureaucracy, faithfully replicated not only by the Communist authorities but by the correspondents themselves. Old hands said that there were places you couldn't go and people you couldn't see because

I learnt from Martha Gellhorn that the single, greatest advantage of being a woman in wartime is you are not taken seriously

you didn't have this mysterious thing called "accreditation". I didn't really know what that was and was damn sure they wouldn't have given it to me anyway.

Then I read Gellhorn's description of setting sail in a hospital ship for D-Day after her husband Ernest Hemingway had swiped her accreditation: "A military policeman stopped me and asked me my business and I said I was just going to interview the nurses, the women's angle. For *Colliers*, the American magazine I was working for. Nobody gave a hoot about the women's angle. It served like a perfectly forged passport. As soon as I got aboard, I found a toilet and locked myself in."



Martha Gellhorn, in 1944, reporting from the Italian front

Photograph: Hulton Getty

From this I learnt that the single greatest advantage of being a woman in wartime is that you are less likely to be taken seriously, which means that

the teeming Channel just before D-Day. She was also unafraid to admit to her fear, which takes real courage, particularly for women who suspect that they

an anti-American streak in her which was as unbending as it was instinctive. Of the unified Germany, she remained profoundly and, it seems to me, unfairly suspicious, trapped in the perceptions of 1945.

But it didn't matter. You could read and learn from her humanitarianism, be fired by the power of her writing and her haunting sense of place even if you didn't share her sturdily socialist view of the world.

Her last piece of "war reporting" was from Wales last year, where she returned to one of the scenes of the miners' strike and vividly described the aftermath of battle between Margaret Thatcher – "ruthless and clever, like a general" – and Arthur Scargill – "a fool". Once again, it was the poor bloody infantry who paid the price. We will always need voices to remind us of them. Hers was the brightest and the one we will miss most.

The best way to save the arts is to remove the single payer



**ANDREAS
WHITTAM
SMITH**
CHARITY TAXES

This newspaper's campaign to persuade the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reform the tax system along American lines and thus "Save the Arts" has got off to a good start. The letters in support are developing the argument and identifying key issues. Daily newspapers can indeed work with their readers to change government policy.

It is important to see clearly what the American system comprises. The US government itself gives little directly to theatre companies, orchestras, museums and the like; instead they are supported by individual donations which, up to very high limits, qualify for tax relief. In effect the government helps the arts by providing donors with a tax deduction.

There is a further point about the American example that its British supporters need to take on board – it is not confined to donations for the arts. Any giving to any charity qualifies for tax relief. This must be correct. I do not see how the arts in the United Kingdom could be given tax advantages that were unavailable to other types of charitable activity. This point was raised by the financial director of Oxfam, David Nussbaum, in a letter to the editor published on Saturday. He was right to argue that the campaign requires consideration across the voluntary sector. And his further point, that such a widening could undermine the covenanted system under which Oxfam now receives numerous small-scale donations, would have to be met.

On the other side of the Atlantic, then, arts institutions survive if, by networking, they can attract a sufficient number of individual backers. In effect there is a free market in donations supported by tax relief. If individual A turns you down, you go to B, and if not B, then C and so on. In this country, if they are to obtain the funds they need, cultural bodies must persuade the relevant committee of the great and the good and its officials. Everything may depend upon a single source. Failure to convince one body can be fatal. For instance, my

fellow columnist on these pages, Trevor Phillips, as chairman of the London Arts Board, has had to take the agonising decision to withdraw the grant upon which the Greenwich Theatre depends. It will probably close down as a result.

It is because I greatly prefer the liberal, unburdened system in the US that I wholeheartedly support the campaign. I also know that there is no chance that this country will follow the Continental pattern, where national or regional governments handsomely support cultural institutions. To see what

probably now outclass the equivalent rooms in the British Museum, which had the reputation of being the best in the world outside Cairo.

I had hoped that the Lottery would be an effective British way to achieve similar results. Indeed the arts have greatly benefited, so far as new buildings are concerned, but they nevertheless find themselves in a traditional quandary. It is much easier to find the funds for premises than it is for running costs. The same problem faced our Victorian ancestors when they wanted to erect new churches

state support at its present levels, even if the Government allows a switch to the American system of tax deductions for private donations. They want it all, no "either/or".

I think that this is unrealistic. The best way of persuading the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make a change is to offer a bargain. I would say to Gordon Brown that if the state would funnel its help to the arts by means of an easy-to-use system of tax deductions for individual donors, scrapping the many restrictions that the Inland Revenue currently imposes, then the

in the tax relief granted to donors to the arts offset by a fall in public expenditure. The cultural institutions would experience the reverse of this – more funds from individual donors, less from the state. But even in this preliminary situation, I think the arts would be better placed. Their sources of finance would have been diversified. And they could feel themselves more masters of their own destiny, less dependent upon government policy.

Then the cultural institutions would find out whether adopting the American method of tax deductions for private donors would allow them to do better than break-even as compared with the present arrangements. At least there would be no ceiling. The harder any institution worked at raising funds from individuals, the greater the reward. Some institutions would flourish in the new circumstances and some would not. But the failures could hardly complain, as Greenwich Theatre does today, that the system itself was unfair.

Let the debate continue. The main difficulty for me at the moment is the Oxfam point. What sort of bargain could the Chancellor be offered which would, over time, provide a net benefit for cultural institutions without harming the rest of the voluntary sector?

On the other side of the Atlantic, arts institutions survive if, by networking, they can attract a sufficient number of backers. In effect, there is a free market in donations

this means, readers need only visit the hugely ambitious refurbishment and expansion of the Louvre Museum in Paris which has just been completed or travel to any regional capital in Germany and go to the local opera house. These countries hold the arts to be a public good which the state or local government naturally finances. The neglect of the British Museum would be inconceivable elsewhere in Europe. As a result the Louvre's new Egyptian galleries

in the fast expanding cities. Businessmen who had done well out of the Industrial Revolution could be persuaded to cover the costs of bricks and mortar – and stained glass windows. But it was much harder to get them to underwrite the salaries of the vicar and curate and other running costs.

Being in a similar situation, the attitude of the cultural institutions is that, as well as receiving lottery funds, they should also continue to obtain

increased private giving thereby stimulated should in time allow the whole apparatus of the Arts Council, with its grant giving powers and expensive overheads, to be wound up. This, after all, is the American pattern – generous tax relief, little state aid.

To begin with, under this scheme, the effect on the British Exchequer and on our cultural institutions alike would be neutral. From the Government's point of view, it would see a rise

Study for a degree in a way that fits your lifestyle.

Every year, thousands of busy people gain BA, BSc or postgraduate degrees with the Open University (OU). Our unique method of teaching lets you study wherever you live and in your own time.

Through OU supported open learning
The Open University comes to you with specially written texts, audio and video cassettes, TV and radio programmes and, for some courses, computer software. You also receive support from your personal tutor and Regional Centre. We're also leading the way in new technology – over 30,000 students are now linked to us by home computers.

OU courses cover arts, science, social sciences, computing, mathematics, technology, modern languages, business management, English law, education, and health and social welfare.

In 1997 the OU ranked in the top 10 universities for the number of courses rated as excellent, and over 24,000 employers recognise their importance for career development by sponsoring OU students – including IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Barclays Bank, Standard Life and Lucas.

Don't let the opportunity to gain a qualification pass you by – for your free prospectus, use the coupon or call our Hotline NOW.

Send for your free prospectus NOW

Send to: The Open University, PO Box 625, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.
☐ Please send me a copy of the Courses, Diplomas and BA/BSc Degrees prospectus.
☐ Please send me a copy of your postgraduate prospectus.

I have contacted the OU before. YES/NO
Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Tel: _____ Date of birth: ____/____/____

OU Hotline (24 hours) 0870 9000 301

The Open University, opens minds, opens doors.

By Nigel Cope
City Correspondent

It is thought that the catalyst behind the talks were the major shareholders in Kwik Save, which include Dairy Farm and the fund management

If the merger is structured as a "newco" — which would take over both groups — it

ould trigger significant options pay-outs to S directors. At the current price, Mr Simons is holding profits of £970,000 on 69,000 options. He has 1m options under a long-term incentive plan.

and has been its "New Gr with better s lighting as w brand ranges closing som performing s Somerfie

By Lea Paterson

Outlook, page 21

By Andrew Yates

"A lot of work has been done and we will make a decision on the future of the company within the next few

ordered to pay \$127m (£75m) in damages in two US states. The group will have to wait at least six months to hear the re-

Mike Metcalf: Will receive a pay-off of £350,000

personal computers, despite a reduction in prices.

Investment Column, Page 20

By Andrew Yates

3&N will now embark on its own widescale reorganisation of its pub estate. It is likely to

Nomura bought the pubs last September as part of a

By Roger Trapp

The firm is said to have been in talks with several leading accountancy

Steven Blakeley, Wilde Sapte's managing partner, fuelled speculation about such a link-up last year, when he said that combining with a big accountancy firm could provide his organisation with the international name and resources it required. Neither firm would comment on the report last night.

long-simmering row by shortly before Christmas calling for an arbitrator to intervene, late last week applied to a US court for an injunction preventing the accounting arm from continuing with actions that it claims will derail the arbitration process. The court in New York is due to reconvene in two weeks.

Some observers are even suggesting that a formal split between the two Andersen units could lead to Andersen Consulting linking up with another consulting firm. However, Nick Lund, IIC senior

Outlook, page 21

FTSE 100

Day	Price
Tuesday	2620
Wednesday	2620
Thursday	2520
Friday	2600

Dow Jones

Day	Price
Tuesday	6900
Wednesday	7000
Thursday	7100
Friday	7200

Nickel

Day	Price
Tuesday	17200
Wednesday	17200
Thursday	16800
Friday	17000

*Dow Jones index and graph in Special Report

Indices	Close	Change	Change(%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	YTD %
FTSE 100	5691.90	37.60	0.67	5875.10	4199.10	3.22
FTSE 250	4989.90	14.00	0.33	4988.90	4384.20	3.22
FTSE 350	2678.60	15.30	0.56	2686.20	2075.70	2.28
FTSE All Share	2609.38	-0.20	-0.01	2426.20	2186.07	0.10
FTSE SmallCap	2430.80	1.00	0.04	2430.80	1725.20	0.43
FTSE 100/1000	1320.90	3.60	0.27	1334.50	955.90	0.90
FTSE 100/200	1020.10	0.20	0.02	889.27	636.68	1.69
FTSE All Share	837.00	0.50	0.09	20910.79	14486.21	0.92
New Jones	167.75/52	-15.40	-0.08	16820.91	7908.13	0.88
Hong Kong	10124.03	-160.57	-1.47	16820.91	7908.13	1.78
Dax	4520.64	18.16	0.40	4897.29	3171.05	1.78

Short sterling

Day	Value
Monday	7.64
Tuesday	7.70
Wednesday	7.70
Thursday	7.70

UK 10 year gilt

Day	Value
Monday	0.07
Tuesday	0.06
Wednesday	0.05
Thursday	0.04

US long bond

Day	Value
Monday	5.94
Tuesday	5.80
Wednesday	5.82
Thursday	5.80

Money Market Rates					Bond Yields				
Index	3 month	1 yr	1 year	1 yr disc	10 yr	1 yr	Long bond	1 yr disc	
UK	7.51	12.20	7.45	0.70	5.93	-1.18	5.92	-1.3	
US	5.63	9.13	6.48	0.73	5.46	-0.88	5.28	-0.8	
Japan	3.61	6.01	0.82	0.25	4.58	-0.69	4.57	-0.7	
Germany	3.61	0.34	3.77	0.54	4.88	-0.52	5.53	-0.7	

MAIN PRICE CHANGES							
	Price (\$)	Chg (\$)	% Chg				
Rises				Falls			
Kwik Save Group	307.50	17.00	5.85	Incompatibles	138.50	-11.00	-7.9
Increase PLC	770.00	9.00	5.59	Thorn PLC	146.90	-9.00	-6.1
Diaper PLC	590.00	31.00	5.58	Investment Amv-nv21	50.00	-80.00	-40.0
Boston PLC	221.00	7.00	4.74	JBA Holdings PLC	770.00	-80.00	-3.0

The figure contains three line graphs, each showing the price of a different metal over a five-day period (Monday to Friday). The y-axis for each graph represents the price in its respective unit.

- Gold (\$/E):** The price starts at \$162 on Monday, rises to \$164 on Tuesday, and remains stable at \$164 through Friday.
- Silver (DM/E):** The price starts at 2.90 on Monday, rises to 2.97 on Tuesday, drops to 2.95 on Wednesday, rises to 2.97 on Thursday, and reaches 2.98 on Friday.
- Platinum (\$/E):** The price starts at 280 on Monday, rises to 290 on Tuesday, 300 on Wednesday, 310 on Thursday, and reaches 320 on Friday.

Pound				Dollar			
Indicator	1,639.0	+0.30c	1,617.0	0.5105	-0.11p	0.5118	
D-Mark	2,977.0	-0.35p	2,987.0	D-Mark	0.6765	-0.65p	1.5885
Yen	206.51	-0.08	207.00	Yen	126.00	+0.00	124.50
£ Index	104.80	+0.50	98.00	£ Index	108.80	+0.90	104.20

OTHER INDICATORS

at 5 pm				Index				at 5 pm	
	Coin	Chg	Yr ago		Index	Chg	Yr ago		Next Day
Gold (t)	14.34	0.34	20.44	GDP	113.90	3.10	110.48	Fel	
Brent Oil (\$)	298.35	-1.50	345.65	RPI	159.50	3.10	154.40	Feb	
Silver (\$)	7.09	0.09	5.14	Base Rate	7.25	6.00			

www.bloomberg.com/uk

source: Bloomberg

Australia (dollars)	2.3736	Italy (lira)	2.872
Austria (schillings)	20.35	Japan (yen)	204.10
Belgium (francs)	59.76	Malta (lira)	0.6282
Canada (\$)	2.3025	Netherlands (guilders)	3.2624
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8459	Norway (kroner)	12.13
Denmark (kroner)	11.10	Portugal (escudos)	295.19
Finland (markka)	8.8506	Spain (pesetas)	244.61
France (francs)	9.6947	South Africa (rand)	7.7381
Germany (marks)	2.9047	Sweden (kroner)	12.99
Greece (drachmae)	458.45	Switzerland (francs)	2.3378
Hong Kong (\$)	1.228	Turkey (lira)	353.035
Ireland (pounds)	1.5448	USA (\$)	1.5989

Source: Thomas Cook
indication purposes only

OUTLOOK

ON THE SOMERFIELD-
KWIK SAVE MERGER,
JOB LOSSES AT UBS,
AND THE FAILURE
OF KPMG AND
ERNST & YOUNG'S
MARRIAGE PLANS

Certainly it will provide a cue for others to follow. UK supermarkets have been hot to trot for some time. One way or another the Big Four are determined to be-

Even so, it is also plain that the merger of SBC Warburg with UBS's investment banking activities has been badly mishandled and that a very substantial amount of value may have been surrendered in the process. When a business

This is in marked contrast to the way news of the FSA was received in the City

KPMG and Ernst & Young are blaming the collapse of their planned \$18bn merger on a combination of regulatory issues and "client power". But is this really the whole story? The two firms have very different cultures and this must surely have

So FW may yet succeed where KPMG has failed. Whatever the outcome, these accountancy mergers have thrown up an amusing irony. The most vociferous critics have been the very company executives who are forever pointing to the need for mergers in their own industries so as to meet the challenge of globalisation. All of which goes to show that your view of competition depends crucially on whether you are in the position of supplier or customer.

Mr Halbert said the intention was now to grow a lot faster through US acquisitions throughout the year, though he

The FSA is facing a struggle

More than £400m was wiped off the company's market value in December after Mr Swift announced he was looking for "radical and innovative changes" to the current charging regime.


anyone outside Indonesia. "No one believes this will work," said Howard Georges, vice-chairman of the South China Brokerage in Hong Kong. "A currency board will make Indonesia a sitting duck for another attack," said Lye Thiam Wooli, a fund manager at OUB Asset Management in Singapore.

The FSA is facing a struggle

"On the whole, financial services institutions are not long on good quality staff. We are aiming to pay market-related salaries somewhere between the median and the top quartile. But we cannot match investment bank-type bonuses," Mr Davies said.

Keith Oates, deputy chairman of Marks & Spencer, was yesterday appointed to be a

expected to switch from the Bank of England to the FSA by 1 June, when the Bank of England Bill comes into force. The super-regulator will move its senior staff to temporary accommodation in Canary Wharf, east London, by the end of April.

NEWBURY		Head Office: 17 Bartholomew Street, Newbury RG14 1BQ Telephone: 01855 43876			
Building Society					
Revised Interest Rates					
The new rates of interest effective from 16 February 1998 on Newbury investment accounts are set out below.					
Current Accounts		GPSSAVE	NEWBURY 1		
Treasure Plus	£1000-250,999	5.50	4.40		
	£1000-424,999	5.85	4.65		
	£250,000-549,999	6.38	5.10		
	£550,000 and OVER	7.10	5.68		
	£550,000-549,999	5.50	4.40		
Instant Premium	£1000-224,999	5.50	4.40		
	£225,000-549,999	5.50	4.40		
	£550,000 and OVER	5.50	4.40		
Newbury Monthly Income	£250-54,999	5.21	4.17		
	£55,000-109,999	CARF 5.34	CARF 4.25		
	£110,000-219,999	5.70	4.56		
	£220,000-549,999	CARF 5.85	CARF 4.95		
	£550,000 and OVER	6.20	4.96		
TESSA 95 & Follow-Up TESSA		CARF 6.38	CARF 5.07		
YoungSaver	£1-949	7.40	Tax Free**		
	£950-1999	4.15	3.32		
	£2000-25,999	5.50	4.40		
	£26,000-54,999	5.50	4.40		
	£55,000-224,999	5.50	4.40		
SeniorSaver	£225,000 and OVER	5.50	4.40		
	£550,000 and OVER	5.50	4.40		
Newbury Share	CARF 5.84	CARF 4.48			
	2.15	1.72			
Closed Accounts		GoodRate*	At Risk*		
TESSA(†)		7.40	Tax Free**		
<p>These new rates are valid until 15/04/98. U.K. income tax deducted. *Compound Annual Rate (CAGR) assuming that monthly interest payments remain in the account. †Fixed U.K. income tax at 10%.</p> <p>The net rate is payable assuming income tax at the current rate of 20%. Income tax paid on the rate after deduction of the appropriate rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers or gross) as directed by the relevant legislation. Newbury Building Society only accepts new investment applications from within its branch operational areas. The Society has in place a policy on the minimum amount required for new account openings.</p>					

Hopes of extra value propel BAE higher

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

Hopes are running high that British Aerospace will accompany record-breaking profits on Thursday with a package of value-enhancing deals.

Last year the once-ailing group flew in with profits of £456m. This time round there are expectations it will hit £590m, lift the dividend 25 per cent-plus to 20p a share and throw in a hefty share split, perhaps four-for-one.

Developments on the Arlington property side are also likely, so is the sell-off of BAE's 21 per cent shareholding in the Orange mobile telephone group.

It was enough to propel BAE shares 62p higher to 1,775p, within hailing distance of their peak.

BAE has also been helped by the success and likely flotation of Airbus Industrie, where it has a 20 per cent interest. Airbus is on the verge of getting a \$4bn Latin American order.

and Kwik Save gained 17p to 259p.

B Elliott, once a giant of the machine tool industry, added 5p to 106.5p after its management produced a £45m cash offer and among the tertiary oil shares Sibor, off 5.5p at 28p, mounted an agreed share exchange offer for its parent, Pentax, down 3p at 17.5p. Car dealer Alexanders motored 5p to 19.5p after saying it was in bid talks. Healthcote, a health support group, rose 6p to 87.5p on a management buy-out at 90p.

Bas, thought to have lost the tender battle for Intercontinental Hotels and Resorts to the US Marriott International group, rose 16p to 950p. The company has cancelled analyst meetings pencilled in for this week. Ladbroke, out of the intercontinental running, rose 1.5p to 284.5p.

Marston Thompson & Evershed, the Burton-on-

Trent brewer, firmed 3p to 259p as managing director David Gordon departed.

Thorn, the rental group, lost 9p to 146.5p after chief executive Mike Metcal left following a profit warning.

Chemical group Courtaulds hardened 6p to 269.5p despite sell advice from stockbroker Sutherland.

British Petroleum fell 8p to

787p with SG Securities suggesting the "tide has turned" and shares should be sold.

For a time financials put on another storming display as the story of a Barclays bid for National Westminster Bank went the rounds again.

NatWest ended 34p (after 43p) higher at 1,174p and Barclays, figures today, closed up 45p (after touching 59p) at 1,931p. Abbey National rose 35p to 1,219p and Lloyds TSB 27p to 900p.

ML Laboratories fell 6p to 125.5p after Glaxo Wellcome dropped an option on one of its products. Shire Pharmaceuticals rose 4p to 339.5p as stockbroker Panmure Gordon cut its current year's profits forecast but lifted its estimate for the following year.

This year's figure has been slashed £1.2m to £4m largely because of an acquisition. Next year's forecast is now £15m, up from £12.6m.

Tadpole Technology had

another tantalising session, hitting 62p at one time. The shares closed at 46.5p, up 12.5p. They have soared from around 10p on stories of a major contract and the arrival of stockbroker Colin Blackburn with 3.1 per cent. The company said it "has nothing new to report".

The shares have become the darling of small investors. Turnover has been heavy. Volume was put at more than 15 million shares yesterday.

Little Bula Resources, the Irish oil group which already has more than 1.6 billion shares in issue, created a few more - 90 million. They were placed at 1.125p a share with Capital International, a US fund manager, which now has 14.7 per cent. Bula held at 1p, putting a £20m value on the company.

In heavy trading Emerald Energy went to a 9.5p peak, up 1p. A statement is expected this week about its Colombian exploration.

Euro Sales Finance, which arrived on AIM at 11.5p in June 1995, jumped 35p to 210p. Interim figures, due tomorrow, are likely to emerge at more than £400,000. In its last full year Euro Sales, which specialises in providing services for small companies, produced £563,000.

Colin Forsyth, founder of the Pan Australian unit trusts, is chairman of The Sandwich Bank and Crust Co, which is on its way to offer. It is raising £950,000, selling shares at 30p. The group produces sandwiches, has a van sales fleet and is building a chain of sandwich bars.

IAE, an investment finance group with interests spreading from a fleet of nine Boeings to property in Kiev, lifted interim profits 113 per cent to £1.1m and should achieve £3.6m for the year. The shares rose 5p to 117.5p, a year's high.

Share Price Data

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is the latest twelve months' dividend gross of tax as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding extraordinary items but including dividends. Other financials are: Dividend in pence; Dividend Yield in %; Dividend Cover in times; Dividend Payout in %.

Source: Bloomberg

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Alcoholic Beverages

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Merchant

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Retail

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Diversified Industrials

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Food Producers

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Gas Distribution

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Health Care

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Household Goods

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Insurance

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Investment Trusts

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Media

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Pharmaceuticals

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Property

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Support Services

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Tobacco

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Transport

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Utilities

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Water

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

THE INDEPENDENT

WIN a Hotpoint® fridge freezer

The Hotpoint® is the UK's best selling

fridge freezer, available in a

choice of four colours: White, Silver,

Black and Red. The Hotpoint®

fridge freezer is the perfect

choice for your home. It's

the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

It's the perfect choice for your home.

Market Leaders: Top 20 volumes

Share Price Data

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is the latest twelve months' dividend gross of tax as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding extraordinary items but including dividends. Other financials are: Dividend in pence; Dividend Yield in %; Dividend Cover in times; Dividend Payout in %.

Source: Bloomberg

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Alcoholic Beverages

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Merchant

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Retail

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Diversified Industrials

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Food Producers

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Gas Distribution

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Health Care

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Household Goods

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Insurance

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Investment Trusts

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Media

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Pharmaceuticals

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Property

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Support Services

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Tobacco

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Transport

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Utilities

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Water

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

Government Securities

Share Price Data

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is the latest twelve months' dividend gross of tax as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding extraordinary items but including dividends. Other financials are: Dividend in pence; Dividend Yield in %; Dividend Cover in times; Dividend Payout in %.

Source: Bloomberg

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Alcoholic Beverages

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Merchant

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Banks, Retail

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Diversified Industrials

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Food Producers

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Gas Distribution

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Health Care

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Household Goods

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Insurance

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Investment Trusts

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Media

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Pharmaceuticals

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Property

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Support Services

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Tobacco

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Transport

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Utilities

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Water

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

52 week High Low Stock Price Chg Yld P/E Code

Worldwide

**JOHN
WILLCOCK**

[illegible]

Howley perfection to move Welsh up the pecking order



A scrum-half in the mould of the greats leads the principality against England on Saturday. Chris Hewett assesses Wales' No 1 dragon

THEY used to call him Stan, as in Stan Laurel, but not even the meanest of international back-row forwards finds much to laugh at in Rob Howley these days. The new nickname, Peter Perfect, has a much more appropriate ring to it: perfect as in impeccable, precise, polished, complete. As is too damned good to be true.

The dewy-eyed romantic who through the terraces of the principality from Stradey in the west to Rodney Parade in the east still was lyrical about a hidden outside-half factory tucked away deep in the valleys, and the emergence of Arwel Thomas as a stand-off in the grand tradition suggests the stardust machinery is back in full production. But what about the scrum-half factory? Gareth Edwards, Chico Hopkins, Brynmor Williams, Terry Holmes, Robert Jones? It is a sporting lineage of noble breeding, a pedigree unmatched anywhere in the rugby world.

And now the success-starved boys have Howley as their No 1 Dragon. It took the Welsh selectors five long years to see where the lean and muscular maestro from Bridgend was coming from, but once they installed the cerebral Kevin Bowring as national coach, the pieces began to fall into place.

Howley made his debut against England at Twickenham two years ago, scoring a fine try that went at least some way towards easing the frustra-

tion of a narrow defeat. No one will die of shock if he manages another at the same venue on Saturday.

On that late winter's day in 1996, Howley was the last Welshman out of the changing room door ("Embarrassingly enough, I lost a stud from my boot as I walked down the tunnel and my team-mates had to wait there until I'd fixed it"). This weekend, he will be the first to take the field, thanks to Bowring's decision to saddle his playmaker-in-chief with the added responsibility of captaincy. An unwanted burden? A poisoned chalice? Not according to the new skipper.

"The captaincy is not just about me, is it? Leadership has little to do with one bloke shouting the odds and everything to do with all 15 players taking responsibility for their actions. Rugby has moved too far and too quickly for one person to take all the decisions that matter during the course of 80 minutes. We're working towards playing decision-makers in every position and the more of them I have around me, the easier the job becomes."

"We're very big on self-analysis in this team and that's the way I like it. We simply have to be critical of ourselves, to look honestly at our contributions in every phase of every match. People say we're a developing team, but the way I look at things, it's about time we stopped developing and started to deliver. We all know the English have had their problems up

front, but I'm still of the opinion that whatever danger they bring to a match is to be found in their back.

"Only eight months ago I was on a Lions tour with the Martin Johnsons, the Lawrence Dallagies, the Richard Hills. These are big-octopus players who have shown the ability to dominate at the very highest level. They're awesome, to be honest. Stop them and you stop England. Their forward performance will be the key this weekend."

"Wales can be a top-six rugby nation. I've no doubt about that. Indeed, it's vital that we establish ourselves among the elite and do it quickly, because we're hosting a World Cup in 18 months' time. The hosts need to be contenders, not also-rans."

"How do we go about it? We start by beating Scotland and Ireland every time we play them, home and away. And we also start by moving that big English pack around the field, imposing our style of play on them for a change and pre-empting our backs with the sort of quality ball that allows them to give it a lash.

front, but I'm still of the opinion that whatever danger they bring to a match is to be found in their back.

"Only eight months ago I was on a Lions tour with the Martin Johnsons, the Lawrence Dallagies, the Richard Hills. These are big-octopus players who have shown the ability to dominate at the very highest level. They're awesome, to be honest. Stop them and you stop England. Their forward performance will be the key this weekend."

front, but I'm still of the opinion that whatever danger they bring to a match is to be found in their back.

"Only eight months ago I was on a Lions tour with the Martin Johnsons, the Lawrence Dallagies, the Richard Hills. These are big-octopus players who have shown the ability to dominate at the very highest level. They're awesome, to be honest. Stop them and you stop England. Their forward performance will be the key this weekend."

front, but I'm still of the opinion that whatever danger they bring to a match is to be found in their back.

"Only eight months ago I was on a Lions tour with the Martin Johnsons, the Lawrence Dallagies, the Richard Hills. These are big-octopus players who have shown the ability to dominate at the very highest level. They're awesome, to be honest. Stop them and you stop England. Their forward performance will be the key this weekend."

front, but I'm still of the opinion that whatever danger they bring to a match is to be found in their back.

"Only eight months ago I was on a Lions tour with the Martin Johnsons, the Lawrence Dallagies, the Richard Hills. These are big-octopus players who have shown the ability to dominate at the very highest level. They're awesome, to be honest. Stop them and you stop England. Their forward performance will be the key this weekend."

French still have Leonard on their mind

By Chris Hewett

JASON LEONARD looks a stone-cold certainty to win his 61st cap against Wales this weekend, despite the fact that the French are still on his disciplinary case. The Tricolours were adamant yesterday that footage of Leonard trampling on Thomas Llewellyn, the Perpignan No 8, was in the mail. However, the alleged evidence was fast taking on the mythical proportions of Billy Bunter's postal order.

England were due to name their side this morning and Clive Woodward, the national coach, insisted he had yet to identify anything on the tape of the Five Nations opener in Paris 11 days ago to justify his taking action against Leonard. The French have accused the 29-year-old Hadenquin of breaking Llewellyn's ribs with a deliberate stamp, but Woodward commented yesterday: "I cannot see the problem."

"I would take action if necessary. I took steps when Martin Johnson was shown to have thrown a punch in the All Blacks game before Christmas. But I am not in favour of citing for things in the heat of battle."

If Woodward was concerned about the state of anyone's ribcage, it belonged to Lawrence Dallaglio. The England captain admitted yesterday that his popped rib cartilage was still causing discomfort and confirmed that he would not contemplate facing the Welsh unless declared 100 per cent fit.

But he added: "What makes me sore is the fact that I've been written off by critics, who seem to know more about my current state and chances of recovery than I do. My injury is improving daily and if that continues, I will take a full part in training towards the end of the week and then play against Wales."



Rob Howley: It's about time Wales stopped developing and started to deliver

Photograph: AP

PHILIPS



Today we publish the updated results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The league table includes all scores up to 7 February. Due to a technical problem, the player scores do not include this weekend's results. Updated scores will be published this Sunday. Neither set of scores includes results from the FA Cup. The manager who is the overall winner will win a trip to the World Cup finals in France next Summer.

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal, i.e. if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 bonus point awarded in addition to standard goal related points. Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game will be awarded one point.

If a player is given a yellow Card they lose 1 point. If a player is given a red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either scored or conceded, do not count.

The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarded 3 points if their real-life team wins, 1 point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following Sunday in The Independent on Sunday.

HOW TO SCORE	
player scores	4 points
clean sheet	4 points
winning goal	1 point
successful assist	3 points
manager's team wins	3 points
draw	1 point
loss	0 points

Independent Fantasy Football

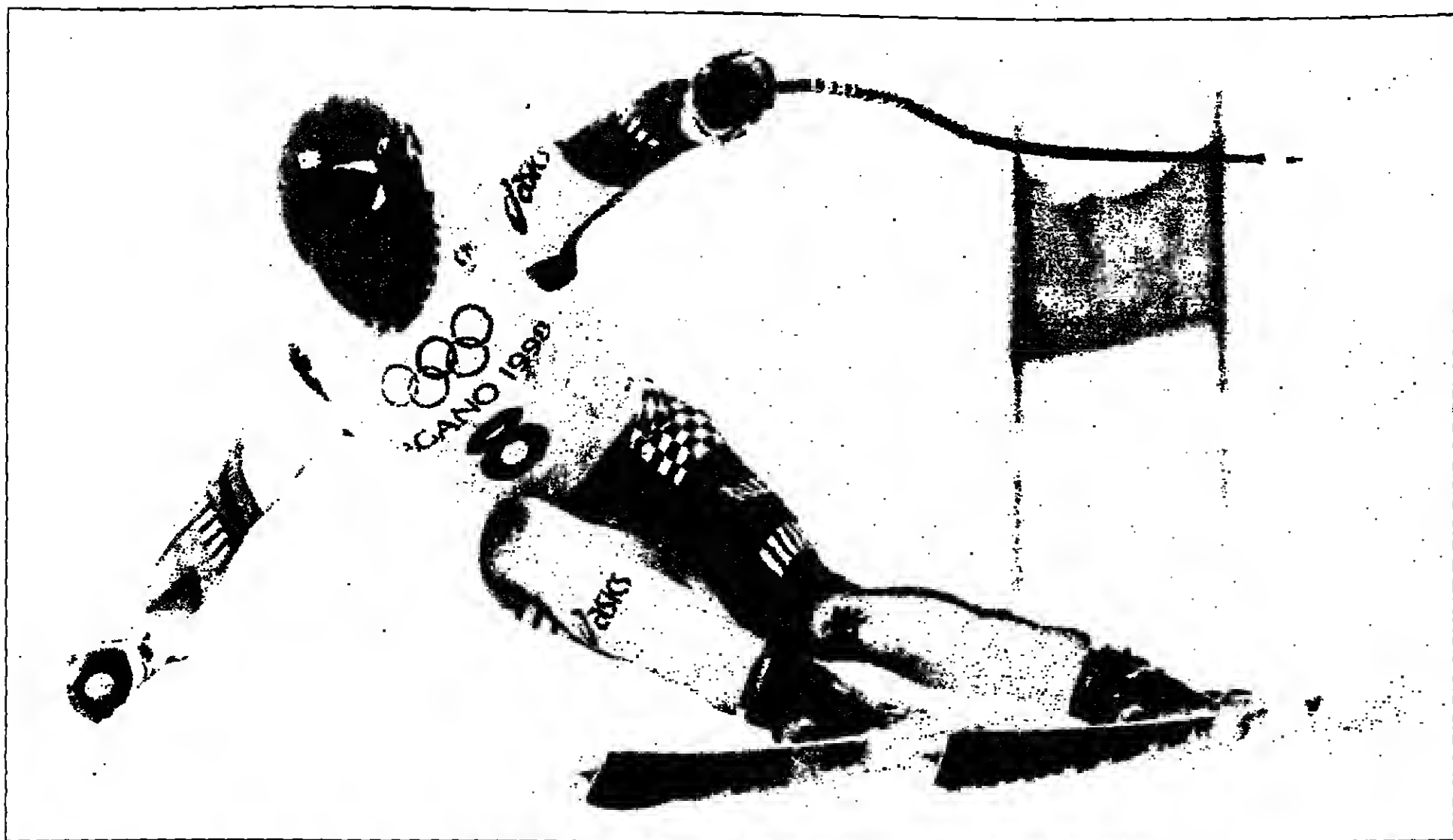
OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 16 FEBRUARY

LEAGUE TABLE			
CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 8 FEBRUARY			
POS	NAME	TEAM	POINTS
1	Mr D Srai	The Untouchables	826
1	Mr D Aston	Billy Boys 2nd 11	826
3	Mr C King	Feeling Victory	823
3	Mr P Tufier	Pins Up 4	823
3	Mr D Baker	Deja Vu	823
3	Mr D Evans	Boothend End Olds Boys	823
3	Mr J Cox	Southville FC	823
3	Mr D Edmington	Edmo United	823
9	Mr B Srai	Simply The Best	822
10	Mr Archer	No Wright	822
11	Mr J Boyle	Wembley Bounders	816
11	Mr A Wingrove	Tim's Boys	816
11	Mr T Lyons	Diana's Demons	816
14	Miss L Wild	Ameretto AFC	812
14	Mr S Scott	Ubeathle	812
16	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	806
17	Mr D Baker	Dead Heat	800
17	Mr J Hayes	Early Birds	800
19	Mr M Pawley	Robert's Raiders	798
19	Mr D Ackroyd	Jack's Lads	798
21	Mr S Scott	The Dream Team	797
22	Mr I Brown	The Hoofers	796
22	Mr A Chudri	Nikes 9th 11	796
22	Mr M Ewins	Mikes C Team	796
25	Mr C Ford	Linthorpe Rovers	792
25	Mr S Walker	Daniels United	792
25	Mr J Cox	Retro Rovers	792
28	Mr G Bell	Stunning Stunts	791
28	Mr Brady	Look Lively	791
30	Mr M Ewins	I've Started But Will I Finish	790
30	Mr M Ewins	Mikes A Team	790
30	Mr A Mitchell	The Eye For It	790
30	Mr D Astoo	Billy Boys 3rd 11	790
30	Mr C Thomas	Scunthorpe Extras	790
35	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	786
35	Mr K Boyle	Clogston Rovers	786
35	Mr M Ward	Team A 40	786
35	Mr T Brazier	Wow For Short	784
38	Mr P Davis	Dugs FC	784
39	Mr G Bell	The Hairy Monsters	783
39	Mr P Tufier	Pin Ups 2	783

GOALKEEPERS			
POS	NAME	TEAM	POINTS
1	Mr D Srai	The Untouchables	826
1	Mr D Aston	Billy Boys 2nd 11	826
3	Mr C King	Feeling Victory	823
3	Mr P Tufier	Pins Up 4	823
3	Mr D Baker	Deja Vu	823
3	Mr D Evans	Boothend End Olds Boys	823
3	Mr J Cox	Southville FC	823
3	Mr D Edmington	Edmo United	823
9	Mr B Srai	Simply The Best	822
10	Mr Archer	No Wright	822
11	Mr J Boyle	Wembley Bounders	816
11	Mr A Wingrove	Tim's Boys	816
11	Mr T Lyons	Diana's Demons	816
14	Miss L Wild	Ameretto AFC	812
14	Mr S Scott	Ubeathle	812
16	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	806
17	Mr D Baker	Dead Heat	800
17	Mr J Hayes	Early Birds	800
19	Mr M Pawley	Robert's Raiders	798
19	Mr D Ackroyd	Jack's Lads	798
21	Mr S Scott	The Dream Team	797
22	Mr I Brown	The Hoofers	796
22	Mr A Chudri	Nikes 9th 11	796
22	Mr M Ewins	Mikes C Team	796
25	Mr C Ford	Linthorpe Rovers	792
25	Mr S Walker	Daniels United	792
25	Mr J Cox	Retro Rovers	792
28	Mr G Bell	Stunning Stunts	791
28	Mr Brady	Look Lively	791
30	Mr M Ewins	I've Started But Will I Finish	790
30	Mr M Ewins	Mikes A Team	790
30	Mr A Mitchell	The Eye For It	790
30	Mr D Astoo	Billy Boys 3rd 11	790
30	Mr C Thomas	Scunthorpe Extras	790
35	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	786
35	Mr K Boyle	Clogston Rovers	786
35	Mr M Ward	Team A 40	786
35	Mr T Brazier	Wow For Short	784
38	Mr P Davis	Dugs FC	784
39	Mr G Bell	The Hairy Monsters	783
39	Mr P Tufier	Pin Ups 2	783

DEFENDERS			
POS	NAME	TEAM	POINTS
1	Mr D Srai	The Untouchables	826
1	Mr D Aston	Billy Boys 2nd 11	826
3	Mr C King	Feeling Victory	823
3	Mr P Tufier	Pins Up 4	823
3	Mr D Baker	Deja Vu	823
3	Mr D Evans	Boothend End Olds Boys	823
3	Mr J Cox	Southville FC	823
3	Mr D Edmington	Edmo United	823
9	Mr B Srai	Simply The Best	822
10	Mr Archer	No Wright	822
11	Mr J Boyle	Wembley Bounders	816
11	Mr A Wingrove	Tim's Boys	816
11	Mr T Lyons	Diana's Demons	816
14	Miss L Wild	Ameretto AFC	812
14	Mr S Scott	Ubeathle	812
16	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	806
17	Mr D Baker	Dead Heat	800
17	Mr J Hayes	Early Birds	800
19	Mr M Pawley	Robert's Raiders	798
19	Mr D Ackroyd	Jack's Lads	798
21	Mr S Scott	The Dream Team	797
22	Mr I Brown	The Hoofers	796
22	Mr A Chudri	Nikes 9th 11	796
22	Mr M Ewins	Mikes C Team	796
25	Mr C Ford	Linthorpe Rovers	792
25	Mr S Walker	Daniels United	792
25	Mr J Cox	Retro Rovers	792
28	Mr G Bell	Stunning Stunts	791
28	Mr Brady	Look Lively	791
30	Mr M Ewins	I've Started But Will I Finish	790
30	Mr M Ewins	Mikes A Team	790
30	Mr A Mitchell	The Eye For It	790
30	Mr D Astoo	Billy Boys 3rd 11	790
30	Mr C Thomas	Scunthorpe Extras	790
35	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	786
35	Mr K Boyle	Clogston Rovers	786
35	Mr M Ward	Team A 40	786
35	Mr T Brazier	Wow For Short	784
38	Mr P Davis	Dugs FC	784
39	Mr G Bell	The Hairy Monsters	783
39	Mr P Tufier	Pin Ups 2	783

If you would like to know more about Philips' range of lighting products please call 0181-606 1966. Terms and conditions as previously published. Supported by Philips Ecotone, The Energy Saver Lightbulbs.



Comeback king: Hermann Maier put his fall in the downhill behind him to power to victory in the super-G on Mount Karamatsudate yesterday

Photograph: AP

Fall and rise of the Herminator

THE MOST dramatic story of the 18th Winter Olympics was played out on the slopes of Mount Karamatsudate yesterday – the fall and rise of Hermann Maier.

Three days after his fearful tumble in the men's downhill, the Austrian whose awesome size and power have earned him the nickname of Monster, the Herminator, returned to win the Olympic gold medal which so many people had forecast for him before these Games.

His time of 1min 34.82sec in the super-G slalom left him more than half a second ahead of his nearest challenger, Didier Cuche of Switzerland, with his Austrian team-mate, Hans Knauss, taking the bronze in the same time.

Considering the circumstances of his crash, it was extraordinary that the 26-year-old former bricklayer was still walking and talking, never mind skiing. Just 17 seconds into the downhill course, he had taken off at the turn which caused problems to a succession of the competitors and smashed through two safety nets before coming to rest, prostrate on his front, 125 metres further on.

If you believed in portents, they were not good. The race

was on Friday 13th, and Maier was skiing fourth – a number which represents death in Japanese culture.

The Herminator, however, was unharmed.

Despite sustaining shoulder and knee injuries which caused him to miss the following day's slalom competition, the man who has dominated this season's World Cup competition returned yesterday to awesome effect.

Since breaking into the Austrian team two years ago, Maier has established the reputation of a man who takes fearful risks, a racer best viewed through half-open fingers. But even he approached this first

Mike Rowbottom reports on the risks that paid off for a bricklayer with attitude

race back with an element of caution.

"It was a problem for me mentally," he said. "I needed to come through the first gate to overcome the barrier of being in competition again. I wasn't scared to go out there again, but I was anxious. The crash is something which keeps going over and over in my head – even more so now I have won the gold. I do not know how I escaped from it to be able to race again. It was the worst accident I have ever had. I walked away from it because the next com-

petitor had to come down, but the doctors spent all day treating me."

But while he was able to face up to a 650-metre descent through 35 gates, the idea of watching his own video nasty – something that has been replayed worldwide – scares him to death.

"I've not watched it on TV because I can't," he said. "If I do see it, it won't be before the end of the World Cup season – and even then I'm not sure."

Yesterday's race will make far easier viewing for him. "It

wasn't a perfect race, and I wasn't in perfect form," he said. "It was important to me in ski again after the accident but I could not be a fool."

Predicted or not, to win a gold here was a stupendous achievement for a man who only forced his way back into the Austrian team in 1996 after being dropped by the national skiing programme at the age of 15 following a knee injury.

Since he gave up his trade – "I laid my last brick on October 26, 1995 at 3pm," he said with a grin – and took up his passion, he has made himself both rich and famous.

But there was lingering resentment over the circum-

stances of his crash, which occurred at a point where the International Ski Federation officials had made an alteration to the course.

"I know I made mistakes in the downhill, but unlike other skiers I had not received any information about the gate which had been moved or the tailwind which had such an effect. And I would like to know why I was not told. There should have been a practice run before the event – then I and others would not have been troubled at that point. The only way I could have taken that turn was in a tank."

Seizing their chance to get up to date with the alpine skiing programme, the organisers made the most of the good weather by running the women's downhill and the downhill section of the women's combined, which will conclude today. Both were won by Germany's Katja Seizinger, who became the first woman to retain an Olympic alpine skiing title.

"It was a really good day for me," Seizinger said. "I really like these conditions." Not had going for someone who said before the Games that the state of the alpine slopes meant that every event would be "a lottery". If that was so, she drew two lucky tickets.

Roy shines as Canada polish off old enemy

Mike Rowbottom reports from Nagano

RON WILSON, coach of the United States ice hockey team, said before these Games that a goaltender could make all the difference in this competition.

On the evidence of yesterday's tumultuous clash between the United States and Canada at the Big Hat rink, Wilson was spot on. And that goaltender is Patrick Roy of Canada.

The man whom many believe is the best in the business faced 31 shots from the best players the United States could muster from the National Hockey League, and saved 30 of them. Four goals from 25 shots took Canada into the quarter-final knock-out stage, starting tomorrow, in pole position.

For the US team, which lost its opening match 3-2 to Sweden, a second defeat was not disastrous – results merely influence the quarter-final draw with all teams qualifying – but in terms of morale, and national pride, the hurt was hard to hide.

If you had to think of Roy in terms of British goalkeepers, your first thought would be Neville Southall. The French-

Canadian has the same shambolic look and unlikely athleticism. But his reaction when the Americans pulled a goal back with just six minutes remaining was pure Peter Shilton – he took it as a personal insult.

Canada have three top-class keepers, and Roy did not make the team two years ago when they reached the inaugural World Cup final and lost to the United States, but his performances since he arrived here with the NHL brigade last week have established him as one of the Games' outstanding figures.

His piece de résistance yesterday came in the first period, when the United States had a 5-3 advantage for two minutes while Joe Sakic and Rob Zamuner sat in the sin bin for, respectively, slashing and holding. It turned out to be two minutes of target practice for the United States as they fired in seven consecutive shots on goal. Two hit the posts. Roy, blocking and diving, dealt with the rest.

The psychological damage to the US was already enormous when the penalty period ended, and then the two released prisoners immediately combined with the legendary Wayne Gretzky to give Canada the lead.

Sakic's pass appeared to have put Gretzky in with a

shooting opportunity, but The Great One turned possibility into certainty by switching the ball gently to Zamuner for an easy score. It was a sweet cameo from the 37-year-old, who has more points for assists in the NHL than his nearest challenger has in combined points for goals and assists.

He had emphasised his commitment to the cause in the opening 10 minutes, when he was given a two-minute penalty for tripping. Gretzky in the sin-bin. As one observer remarked, it was like seeing Bobby Charlton sent off.

As the Americans' frustration grew, they resorted increasingly to the bodycheck and cross-check. For a few moments in the second period, they seemed intent on re-shaping the arena using Canadian bodies to hammer out the boards. But the Canadians, with their huge, baby-face killer captain Eric Lindros, were well able to look after themselves. Throughout Roy, eyes burning through his mask in their intensity, kept up a constant, head-bobbing monologue in his efforts to maintain concentration.

"What," someone asked, "are you saying to yourself out there?" "Nothing really special," replied Roy, who speaks both English and French.

"What language was it in, then?"

"Today," Roy said, "maybe Japanese."

The two defeats have spelled out, almost jolts to American national pride in any language, and the US face a tougher quarter-final match as a result.

"We know that the road to a gold medal probably runs through Canada," Wilson said. On yesterday's evidence, that road is a dead end.

The two nations meet again today, in the gold medal decider in the women's competition, and the portents for a good, clean sporting game are not good.

After their group match, where the Canadian world champions were beaten by the United States, there were accusations that some of the US players had goaded Canada's forward Danielle Goyette, who scored the first-ever Olympic goal for her country last week, over the recent death of her father.

The Canadian coach, Shannon Miller, is reportedly threatening to make the Americans pay for their behaviour.

Winter Olympics results and timetable

ALPINE SKIING
Men's super-G
1 Hermann Maier (Austria) 1:34.82
2 Hans Knauss (Austria) 1:34.82
3 Didier Cuche (Switzerland) 1:35.07
4 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.11
5 K. Arnott (Norway) 1:35.11
6 P. Jaeger (Switzerland) 1:35.22
7 D. Rindler (Austria) 1:35.22
8 T. Maier (Austria) 1:35.22
9 L. Kueh (Austria) 1:35.22
10 F. Nyberg (Sweden) 1:35.22
11 S. B. 1:35.22
12 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
13 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
14 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
15 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
16 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
17 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
18 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
19 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22
20 A. Follin (Italy) 1:35.22

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
Women's 40km relay
1 Russia (Russia) 1:58:00
2 Norway (Norway) 1:58:00
3 Sweden (Sweden) 1:58:00
4 Germany (Germany) 1:58:00
5 Switzerland (Switzerland) 1:58:00
6 Austria (Austria) 1:58:00
7 Czech Republic (Czech Republic) 1:58:00
8 Slovakia (Slovakia) 1:58:00
9 Finland (Finland) 1:58:00
10 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
11 Poland (Poland) 1:58:00
12 Hungary (Hungary) 1:58:00
13 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
14 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
15 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
16 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
17 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
18 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
19 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00
20 Slovenia (Slovenia) 1:58:00

ICE HOCKEY
Men's final phase: Group C: Finland 8 Kazakhstan 2; Czech Republic 1 Russia 2; Group D: Canada 4 USA 1; Sweden 5 Belarus 2.
WOMEN'S 1500m
1 Mariann Thurner (Netherlands) 57:58
2 Canada (Canada) 58:00
3 China (China) 58:00
4 F. Nyberg (Sweden) 58:00
5 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
6 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
7 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
8 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
9 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
10 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
11 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
12 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
13 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
14 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
15 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
16 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
17 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
18 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
19 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00
20 A. Follin (Italy) 58:00

ICE DANCE Final standings
1 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
2 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
3 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
4 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
5 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
6 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
7 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
8 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
9 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
10 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
11 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
12 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
13 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
14 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
15 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
16 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
17 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
18 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
19 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st
20 Pasha Grishin/Inna Zhukova (Russia) 21st

England have worked themselves into a position where they have everything to prove



ALAN WATKINS
ON RUGBY

AS I write, the England team to play Wales has not been announced. I see it as one of the functions of a columnist to advise managers and coaches what they ought to do rather than to predict what they will do. Accordingly I can approach the subject without any greater danger than usual of looking foolish.

A consensus seems to have built up over the past week that Matt Perry must be restored in place of Mike Catt; that the front row must be remodelled to accommodate a new tight-head prop, with Victor Uboqui the favourite replacement, closely followed by Phil Vickery, and a few voices raised in favour of Will Green; and that either Tim Rodber or Tony

Diprose must come in at No 8. These are the minimum requirements. There is a case for saying that the England team who went down in Paris were, with a few adjustments such as these, the best currently available. There is equally a case for following the traditional French revolutionary policy of *a la lanterne*.

This would mean that, judged by their performances in Paris, the only players to retain their places would be David Rees, Jeremy Guscott, Paul Grayson (partly because he did not let England down with his kicking, partly because there is nobody else), Gareth Archer, Lawrence Dallaglio (if fit) and Neil Back. There is certainly a

case for restoring Aledawo Adebayo and Matt Dawson to the backs and for fielding an entirely new front row, in addition to adjusting the back row.

Has anyone, by the way, noticed how hookers who are not regular first choices for their clubs are already English internationals? This season Andy Long of Bath and Dorian West of Leicester have been capped, the latter as a substitute. It can be only a matter of time before the call goes forth to George Chuter of Saracens, admittedly first choice for his club but a very recent one.

Graham Dawe, formerly of Bath, now of Moseley, was – perhaps still is – a better player than any of these. But be-

cause his period corresponded to the reign of Brian Moore he ended up with a handful of caps, four if you include a match against the United States. He must sometimes reflect on the unfairness of life.

Wales likewise have been having trouble in this department. Wisely, they have stuck consistently with David Young since his return to Cardiff from rugby league, though the wisecracks say – the front row has always been the most fertile ground for armchair authorities – that his scrummaging power has diminished since his sojourn in the north.

Well, in South Africa for the Lions last year, Young was considered better than Jason

Leocard but not quite as good as Paul Wallace. Barry Williams was distinctly unlucky not to become the first-choice hooker. For Wales the problem, as it has been for several seasons, is at loose-head.

The selectors first flirted with Andrew Lewis of Cardiff and then transferred their affections to Christian Loader of Swansea. For the England match Lewis is back. I should have preferred an attempt to turn Lyndon Mustoe, also of Cardiff, into a regular loose-head.

But the argument I do not accept is that, at 5ft 10in and 15 stone, Lewis is "too small" for the modern game. After all, Tom Smith, of roughly similar

dimensions, discomfited the South African front row. Jeff Probyn was the same size likewise; and England could certainly use Mr Probyn's services today.

I am sorry that Craig Quinell is still omitted but delighted that Colin Charvis is back. However, he is back at No 6, rather than at No 7. And indeed people speak highly of the player who is to fill the latter position, Martyn Williams.

But the truth is surely that until flankers as a race turn themselves into left-and-right, as wings do, the blind side cannot simply be swapped for the open. They are different trades. Centres have gone the way of flankers rather than kept to

that of wings, and now usually play inside and outside, as Scott Gibbs and Allan Bateman respectively will on Saturday. They, Neil Jenkins' boot and Robert Howley prelate the greatest dangers to England.

With heart pounding dangerously, I shall be hacking them to win at Twickenham, not because Wales have the better backs, as they do, but largely because England have worked themselves into a position where they owe everything to prove and will consequently be on edge; whereas Wales have long had nothing to lose. I shall not be at all disappointed if Jenkins and Arwel Thomas make copious use of the corner flag.

Major Currencies. Minor Fuss.

Travellers cheques, insurance and currency from any branch in 24 hours.

NatWest
More than just a bank

Advocaat's Ibrox role confirmed

Football

By Bryn Palmer

AFTER WEEKS of speculation, David Murray, Rangers chairman, yesterday revealed the news that most had been expecting - that Dick Advocaat, the former Dutch national manager, will take over team affairs when Walter Smith retires at the end of the season.

Advocaat, who will become the Rangers' first foreign coach, forced the issue by signalling his intention to announce his future plans after guiding his present club, PSV Eindhoven, through a league game with Ajax on Sunday.

In a short statement, Murray confirmed that the 50-year-old Dutchman was always his first choice to succeed Smith, who is stepping down after

leading Rangers in six of their nine successive Scottish titles. "I am delighted that Dick Advocaat, one of the game's most respected coaches, has accepted the position of manager of Rangers," Murray said. "Over the past few weeks we interviewed a number of possible candidates for this position and from this it became quite clear that Dick was our first choice."

As already stated, Walter Smith will continue to manage the club until the arrival of Dick from PSV on 1 July.

Murray, who was not prepared to reveal details of the length or value of the contract, said he felt obliged to make a statement to end speculation. "I felt some pressure to make the announcement as I said I would reveal our choice near the start of the year and I feel this is the right time," he said.

Advocaat, who led the Dutch to the quarter-finals of the World Cup in 1994, has since won the Dutch championship and cup with PSV, but was faced with the prospect of several key players leaving the club at the end of the season.

Although his deal in Eindhoven ran until the middle of 1999, Advocaat exercised a clause in his contract that allowed him to annul the agreement should he receive a better offer elsewhere.

He said: "I have a very clear vision of the direction I wish to take the club and I look forward to working with everyone at Rangers to ensure that direction brings even more success to this great club."

Advocaat's arrival at Ibrox means Dutchmen will be guiding the attempts of both the main Glasgow clubs in their search for continental success. Advocaat's friend and former colleague, Wim Jansen, is head coach at Celtic.

While Rangers are chasing a record 10th successive title, their performances in Europe - with a couple of notable exceptions - have been disappointing. Earlier this season they suffered the indignity of being knocked out of both the Champions' Cup and the UEFA Cup early on, and the vice-chairman, Donald Findlay, was quick to point out this was an unfortunate factor in the choice of Advocaat.

"He is a man with enormous experience in Europe and I think the Rangers supporters should be very excited about him bringing that experience to bear on our game from a European standpoint," Findlay said.

"He regards Rangers as a great club and a great challenge, and I think he appreciates that for a club of our size, our success rate in Europe in recent years has not been acceptable. He is looking forward to trying to improve that as well as maintaining domestic success."



Back on top: Andre Agassi celebrates his straight-sets victory over Pete Sampras in the Sybase Open in San Jose, California, yesterday. Photograph: John Todd/AP

Agassi storms past Sampras

Tennis

ANDRE AGASSI demonstrated a fresh thirst for tennis when he beat the world No 1, Pete Sampras, 6-2, 6-4 in San Jose, California. Agassi captured his first title in 18 months with a brilliant display of serves, returns of serves and groundstrokes at the Sybase Open. He vowed after the match that he was taking aim at the No 1 ranking this year and looking to fight it out with Sampras in the French Open final.

Britain's No 1, Greg Rusedski, has dropped one place to No 9 in the latest world rankings, but

Tim Henman, the No 2, climbed one place to 17th despite three successive first-round defeats. Rusedski's ranking is his lowest since he first moved into the top 10 in October after winning the Swiss Indoor Championship, but his drop came because he did not play last week.

Henman, by contrast, has been in poor form but had no points to defend last week. He moved up a place because Thomas Muster dropped from 16th to 21st.

Britain will play Ukraine in Group One of the Euro-African Zone of the Davis Cup for the second successive year when

the two countries meet in Newcastle in April. Ukraine beat Denmark 3-2 in Kiev over the weekend to qualify for this second-round tie, which Britain must win to progress to the World Group Qualifying round in September.

Former world No 1 Steffi Graf celebrated her comeback eight months after a knee operation with a straight-sets win in the first round of the WTA doubles tournament in Hanover. Graf and her partner, Barbara Rittner, beat their compatriots, Meike Babel and Wiltrud Probst, 6-3 6-1.

Sri Lanka bowled over as England A make history

Cricket

ENGLAND A completed the first objective of their winter tour with an emphatic seven-wicket victory in Moratuwa in the third unofficial Test here yesterday.

The inexperienced tour party set out from London in December aiming to further their cricketing education and became the first A team to beat Sri Lanka in three tours. They not only achieved their targets, but excelled in both with a confident and determined performance which enabled them to inflict Sri Lanka's first A team series defeat on home soil.

Starting their reply 95 runs adrift after dismissing the tourists for 466 yesterday, Sri Lanka reached 58 for 1 at lunch to leave all but the England dressing-room preparing for a draw. But England A, spearheaded by the spin pairing of Dean Cocker and Ashley Giles, dismissed Sri Lanka for 168, before cruising to their victory target of 74 with 21 balls remaining.

Meanwhile in South Africa, the Pakistan team manager, Asad Aziz, reacted with disdain to suggestions the two players who were mugged in South Africa last Wednesday evening have been less than honest about their plight.

Speculation has mounted

steadily that Mohammad Akram and Saqlain Mushtaq, who said they were attacked by two men who kept from a car as they were walking towards shops close to their hotel in a wealthy Johannesburg suburb, may have acquired their injuries elsewhere.

The attack forced the start of the first Test against South Africa to be delayed from Friday to Saturday. It also prompted waves of condemnation from politicians and sports officials and a promise that security for the touring team would be stepped up.

Jobannesburg police, however, have criticised the players for being "unco-operative" and this has fuelled the rumours there may be another story.

Although police spokesmen refuse to confirm the subject of their investigations, they would not deny that a team of officers have talked with the management and staff of a late-night club close to the team hotel.

The former Australia captain Allan Border became a member of the national selection panel yesterday. Border has been appointed alongside the chairman, Trevor Hohns, and Andrew Hilditch. He replaces Steve Bernard, who was named as Australian team manager last month.

England A scoreboard, Sporting Digest

Premiership giants accused of poaching young players

FOUR Premiership clubs have been charged with trying to poach young players from other teams.

Manchester United, Newcastle, Everton and Aston Villa, together with Wolves of the First Division, are alleged to have breached the Football Association's Programme of Excellence Regulations by attempting to sign youngsters attached to other clubs under the scheme. The clubs have until Thursday to answer the charges.

Everton have been charged following a complaint from Wolves in connection with four players, while Villa are charged over alleged approaches in three West Brom youngsters and one who was at Charlton. Hull have complained about Newcastle trying to sign two of their players, while United have been charged over alleged bids for a player each from Crewe and

Stockport. Shrewsbury have also accused Wolves of attempting to sign one of their youngsters.

Frank Burrows is the new manager of Cardiff City. The Scot was in charge at Minian Park club from 1986 to 1989, leading Cardiff to promotion from the old Fourth Division in 1988.

Don Hutchison is on the verge of joining Everton, in time to face his former club Liverpool in the Merseyside derby at the weekend. Hutchison is switching from Sheffield United with a small cash adjustment, with the young defender Jon O'Connor going the other way.

Bryan Gunn, who has lost his first-team place at Norwich to Aody Marshall, is joining Hibernian on loan for the rest of the season.

ICI, which has sold off a number of its businesses in recent months, is to sell its 25 per cent share in Middlesbrough.

Hull and Sheffield draw giant-killers

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

THE two Cumbrian amateur sides who made history by reaching the last 16 have been rewarded with fifth round ties against Super League opposition in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

Ellenborough, who beat Hunslet in the last round, have a trip to Hull, while Egremont, who whitewashed Workington Town - a Super League side themselves just 18 months ago - face Sheffield Eagles.

There are some heavyweight confrontations elsewhere, with

the holders, St Helens, at home to neighbours Warrington and Castleford, victorious at Leeds on Saturday, playing host to Bradford, the beaten finalists for the last two seasons.

"If we are going to Wembley, it looks like we'll have to do it the hard way," Castleford's coach, Stuart Raper, said.

There is another all-Super League meeting at the London Broncos, where Halifax are the visitors, all of which makes Wigan even firmer favourites to recover the trophy they once made their own. They are away to the winners of the Dewsbury-Lancashire Lynx tie, which is to

be re-played at New Crown Flatt tomorrow.

St Helens have reacted calmly to news from Australia that their new signing, Damien Smith, was thrown out of his previous club, St George, for turning up for training under the influence not of drink but recreational drugs.

"We were already aware of the disciplinary measures and he comes to us with a clean sheet," said Saints' chief executive, David Howes. Smith is due to arrive, complete with work permit, within three weeks.

Meanwhile, the player he replaces on Saints' overseas roster

ter, Jamie Olejnik, is to rejoin one of his previous clubs, Manly. Olejnik failed to get a work permit, but might still join Saints next year.

Sheffield Eagles are today announcing the signing of the Great Britain prop, Steve Moly, who has been involved in a long-running battle to leave Featherstone Rovers.

Another Great Britain prop, Leeds' Barrie McDermott, has denied a rift with the club's new coach, Graham Murray, after being substituted only 18 minutes after coming on to the field in the Challenge Cup defeat by Castleford on Saturday.

Norman under fire for no-show

Golf

GREG NORMAN was criticised yesterday for failing to finish his final round of the South African PGA championship.

Officials later confirmed his disqualification after the Australian world No 2, who was paid \$300,000 (£187,000) to appear in the European co-sanctioned event, failed to arrive yesterday morning to complete his fourth and final round. He was eight-under-par after nine holes and in line for a top-10 finish.

The double British Open champion told tournament officials after the close of Sunday's play, which was interrupted by bad weather, that he did not intend to continue his round because of pressing engagements in the US. He left the country on Sunday night.

"I'm disappointed in Greg's decision not to conclude his final round. I consider his conduct injurious to the Southern Africa tour," the commissioner, Arnold Mentz, said.

Zimbabwe's Tony Johnstone, the eventual tournament winner, said he was surprised at Norman's decision: "I wouldn't have expected Greg to leave. I think that \$300,000 is worth an extra day."

Wycombe continued their territorial advantage with goals from Andy Burrows and Gavin Elliot to stare the points.

The late decision by the English Hockey Association to hold a Four Nations' Tournament at Southgate on 17 to 19 April has caused a clash with the County Championships, which start the same weekend. Less than 15 miles across London, Middlesex are staging one of the A Division pools at Chiswick and are upset with the arrangement.

Michael Kitchell, the Middlesex student, said yesterday: "It seems to be incredible that the EHA cannot work in conjunction with the counties. News of the tournament first appeared in the media and there has still been no official communication."

Snooker Stephen Hendry, the world No 1, has been called before a disciplinary in-

EF Education loses mast in heavy seas

Sailing

Stuart Alexander reports from Auckland

THE 12-strong, all-woman crew of EF Education were dealt a second hammer blow on the Whitbread Round the World Race yesterday when their mast buckled and crashed on to the deck.

Already crippled by damage to the rigging which had left them at the back of the nine-boat fleet 1,400 miles behind the leader and sister yacht, EF Language, the latest setback raises serious doubts about whether they can reach Brazil in time to start the sixth leg to Fort Lauderdale, which starts on 14 March.

Neither skipper Christine Guillo nor any of her crew, who were left trying to retrieve the tangle of heavy rig in difficult southern ocean conditions - steep waves, strong winds and extreme cold - were injured.

Their progress will now be further hampered by the small sail area that they will be able to carry on a jury rig and they do not have enough fuel to motor continuously for the week it would take to reach port at Ushuaia near Cape Horn.

Extra fuel may have in been dropped to them from the air.

Chessie Racing may also need help from the sky because they cannot start the main engine which powers their water-maker. The food on the Whitbread boats is mainly dehydrated and is useless without water. The crew are being rationed to three cups a day. "We are looking for land and sailing hard to shorten the time of our thirst," the watch captain, Dave Scott, reported.

The frustration of being becalmed at Cape Horn came to an end for the group chasing Paul Cayard and EF Language. A 15-knot north-easterly breeze took them all round the notorious landmark, with Gunnar Krantz reclaiming second place in Swedish Match and Grant Dalton taking Merit Cup up to third, just three miles behind. Cayard, meanwhile, was 274 miles ahead, making 12 knots.

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE (with leg, 6,670 miles, Auckland, NZ, to Sao Sebastian, Brazil): 1 EF Language (Swi) P Cayard 187 miles to finish; 2 Swedish Match (Swe) G Krantz 274 miles behind; 3 Merit Cup (Mon) G Dalton +277; 4 Teal (US) C Sandberg 285; 5 Intervention (Nor) K Frostad +288; 6 Bunt Sundry (Neth) N Heiler +442; 7 Chessie Racing (US) D Smith +444; 8 EF Education (Swe) C Guillo +454.

Sporting Digest

Badminton

MEN'S WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP (Thomas Cup) European qualifying tournament: 1st round: 1st Group: 1. France 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847. 848. 849. 850. 851. 852. 853. 854. 855. 856. 857. 858. 859. 860. 861. 862. 863. 864. 865. 866. 867. 868. 869. 870. 871. 872. 873. 874. 875. 876. 877. 878. 879. 880. 881. 882. 883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893. 894. 895. 896. 897. 898. 899. 900. 901. 902. 903. 904. 905. 906. 907. 908. 909. 910. 911. 912. 913. 914. 915. 916. 917. 918. 919. 920. 921. 922. 923. 924. 925. 926. 927. 928. 929. 930. 931. 932. 933. 934. 935. 936. 937. 938. 939. 940. 941. 942. 943. 944. 945. 946. 947. 948. 949. 950. 951. 952. 953. 954. 955. 956. 957. 958. 959. 960. 961. 962. 963. 964. 965. 966. 967. 968. 969. 970. 971. 972. 973. 974. 975. 976. 977. 978. 979. 980. 981. 982. 983. 984. 985. 986. 987. 988. 989. 990. 991. 992. 993. 994. 995. 996. 997. 998. 999. 1000. 1001. 1002. 1003. 1004. 1005. 1006. 1007. 1008. 1009. 1010. 1011. 1012. 1013. 1014. 1015. 1016. 1017. 1018. 1019. 1020. 1021. 1022. 1023. 1024. 1025. 1026. 1027. 1028. 1029. 1030. 1031. 1032. 1033. 1034. 1035. 1036. 1037. 1038. 1039. 1040. 1041. 1042. 1043. 1044. 1045. 1046. 1047. 1048. 1049. 1050. 1051. 1052. 1053. 1054. 1055. 1056. 1057. 1058. 1059. 1060. 1061. 1062. 1063. 1064. 1065. 1066. 1067. 1068. 1069. 1070. 1071. 1072. 1073. 1074. 1075. 1076. 1077. 1078. 1079. 1080. 1081. 1082. 1083. 1084. 1085. 1086. 1087. 1088. 1089. 1090. 1091. 1092. 1093. 1094. 1095. 1096. 1097. 1098. 1099. 1100. 1101. 1102. 1103. 1104. 1105. 1106. 1107. 1108. 1109. 1110. 1111. 1112. 1113. 1114. 1115. 1116. 1117. 1118. 1119. 1120. 1121. 1122. 1123. 1124. 1125. 1126. 1127. 1128. 1129. 1130. 1131. 1132. 1133. 1134. 1135. 1136. 1137. 1138. 1139. 1140. 1141. 1142. 1143. 1144. 1145. 1146. 1147. 1148. 1149. 1150. 1151. 1152. 1153. 1154. 1155. 1156. 1157. 1158. 1159. 1160. 1161. 1162. 1163. 1164. 1165. 1166. 1167. 1168. 1169. 1170. 1171. 1172. 1173. 1174. 1175. 1176. 1177. 1178. 1179. 1180. 1181. 1182. 1183. 1184. 1185. 1186. 1187. 1188. 1189. 1190. 1191. 1192. 1193. 1194. 1195. 1196. 1197. 1198. 1199. 1200. 1201. 1202. 1203. 1204. 1205. 1206. 1207. 1208. 1209. 1210. 1211. 1212. 1213. 1214. 1215. 1216. 1217. 1218. 1219. 1220. 1221. 1222. 1223. 1224. 1225. 1226. 1227. 1228. 1229. 1230. 1231. 1232. 1233. 1234. 1235. 1236. 1237. 1238. 1239. 1240. 1241. 1242. 1243. 1244. 1245. 1246. 1247. 1248. 1249. 1250. 1251. 1252. 1253. 1254. 1255. 1256. 1257. 1258. 1259. 1260. 1261. 1262. 1263. 1264. 1265. 1266. 1267. 1268. 1269. 1270. 1271. 1272. 1273. 1274. 1275. 1276. 1277. 1278. 1279. 1280. 1281. 1282. 1283. 1284. 1285. 1286. 1287. 1288. 1289. 1290. 1291. 1292. 1293. 1294. 1295. 1296. 1297. 1298. 1299. 1300. 1301. 1302. 1303. 1304. 1305. 1306. 1307. 1308. 1309. 1310. 1311. 1312. 1313. 1314. 1315. 1316. 1317. 1318. 1319. 1320. 1321. 1322. 1323. 1324. 1325. 1326. 1327. 1328. 1329. 1330. 1331. 1332. 1333. 1334. 1335. 1336. 1337. 1338. 1339. 1340. 1341. 1342. 1343. 1344. 1345. 1346. 1347. 1348. 1349. 1350. 1351. 1352. 1353. 1354. 1355. 1356. 1357. 1358. 1359. 1360. 1361. 1362. 1363. 1364. 1365. 1366.

Third Test: Openers see off West Indies' initial onslaught but Crawley's unnecessary run-out precipitates familiar sense of uncertainty

England hesitate in face of history

Rain intervenes as tourists lose momentum after Stewart heroics

Derek Pringle
reports from Port of Spain

West Indies 159 & 210
England 145 & 170-4

FOR the second time in a week, England were hesitating over beating the West Indies here at the Queen's Park Oval. Needing 225 to win they appeared to be coasting to victory after a century opening stand between Michael Atherton and Alec Stewart. However, two vital wickets by Courtney Walsh and another by Carl Hooper meant that England were 170 for 4 when heavy rain stopped play on the stroke of tea.

The West Indies have not lost a game on this ground since Pakistan beat them 21 years ago. After a morning that was all England that record began to look in jeopardy. Yet, as England are acutely aware, particularly the six current players who played in the debacle here four years ago when England were dismissed for 46 in the last innings of the match, you allow the West Indies through the front door at your peril.

The main reason this has been a low scoring match is that an awful lot of batsmen on both sides have gifted their wickets away with appalling shots and decisions. But although Atherton, Stewart and Nasser Hussain could do little over their dismissals, the same could not be said of John Crawley, whose foolish run-out brought the West Indies' waning belief flooding back with a vengeance.

Before Crawley embarked on his fatal second run England were 144 for 1. Thirteen overs later they were 168 for 4, with Ambrose and Walsh, as well as the gremlins of Port of Spain, gnawing at their heels. But if rain brought time for England to regroup, it allowed Walsh and Ambrose to rest. With the new ball due soon and the pitch

greening up under the covers, Queen's Park was certainly not a place for faint hearted batsmen.

A few hours earlier, it had all looked very different and with two days to score the 173 runs needed at the start of play, there was no need to rush. The first hour's play yielded 36 runs, most of them to Stewart. However, small totals are sometimes flattered by the cautious approach and the England team and their supporters were grateful when Stewart, after a shaky start, began to pierce the ringed field set by the West Indies captain, Brian Lara.

Stewart is at his best with pace on the ball and he began to cut loose soon after England's first scare of the morning when Atherton, scampering back for a second run, narrowly beat Nixon McLean's superb return from long leg. Next ball, with Atherton on 39, the West Indies should have broken through when he cut Walsh straight to Stuart Williams in the gully, who spilled a difficult chance.

By rights it should have been the wicket that broke the drought and the drop visibly affected the West Indies' morale. Like for England, it has been the howlers closer to the end than the middle of their careers who have taken the majority of the wickets so far. The two back-to-back Tests here in Trinidad have taken their toll and although the spirit would have been willing after a wicketless first session, the bodies would not have been.

Resolve, even for experienced campaigners like Walsh and Ambrose, has its breaking point and instead of them perhaps reflecting on their storming performance here four years ago, their tired minds would have begun to wander back to their more recent and less savoury experiences in Karachi and Peshawar.

However, perhaps with one

last hurrah in mind after lunch, which had been brought forward by a brisk shower, Lara alternated his two senior bowlers an over at a time from the Pavilion End.

It is a pity that Lara used in Perth last winter in 100C heat while Walsh, the captain, was off the field. Whatever his reasons this time the gambit worked with Walsh finding the edge of Atherton's bat with a beauty that bounced and left the England captain off the pitch.

Before this innings, Atherton had not passed 50 in his last 12 innings. That number has now risen to 13, though his gritty 49 was worth double that in the circumstances.

With one Manchester Grammar old boy being replaced by another you would have thought that the cerebral side of chasing this target would have been in good hands.

But pressure can do strange things to the coolest of minds and with John Crawley playing for glory as well as his place in the next Test, the combination proved lethal. He was run out going for a second that was never there by Kenny Benjamin, running round from extra cover. Mind you, with TV replays angles blocked by static fielders, the decision to give Crawley out, although probably the correct one, was based on guesswork, which is what the technology is surely meant to eradicate.

While Stewart remained, however, England were still favourites. But in keeping with this incredible Test match, where the upper hand has changed sides almost by the session, the odds shifted when, eight runs later, Walsh had the England opener caught behind off a similar ball to the one that had done for his captain.

It was an incredible piece of resilience by Walsh who four balls before getting Stewart, had seen Hooper spill him at slip. To come back so soon after such a disappointment was a testament to the bowler's heart, which as captain had been broken by this side recently in Pakistan.

But if that brought the home crowd to their feet for the first time, they were up again not long after when Hussain, who just having struck Hooper back over his head for four, was out to a grubber from the same bowler that struck him below the boot-laces. It was a ball that will have preyed on all those waiting their turn in the dressing-room.

England A make history, page 27



Stewart Stewart: The England batsman on his way to 83 yesterday Photograph: Allsport

Slips that show the naked truth about Lara's bowling options

HENRY BLOFELD

ON THIS heavily cracked pitch, which is well grassed in places and bare in others, it seemed almost certain it would be the West Indies four fast bowlers who would take them to victory. A week ago, England were looking to their seamers to win the second Test match for them - and we all know what happened then.

Brian Lara started the day with Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose and the West Indies went about their business as if it had been ordained that these two would start England's downfall. It was almost as if they were going through the motions. Not only did they fail to take wickets, however, but the runs began to come rather too freely for Lara's liking.

He found himself facing the age old dilemma. While it was imperative he took wickets, he also had to make sure that too many runs were not given away. It is never easy to get the balance just right. Lara showed that he understood the problem though when, right from the start, he used a third man and a fine leg.

This meant that all he could find for his illustrious pair of opening bowlers was three slips. When after 10 overs Kenny Benjamin took over from Walsh, he was given only one slip when he bowled at Alec Stewart, who had gone for his strokes from the start.

Lara alternated his four fast bowlers but still that elusive first wicket would not fall. He kept them on and looked increasingly surprised as if he were a lion tamer in a circus who suddenly found his charges would not perform for him. He did not know what to do.

When he did not turn to Carl Hooper, whose off-breaks have looked dangerous whenever he has been used in Port of Spain, it was further evidence that he was working to a pre-arranged

plan. When Atherton and Stewart survived the opening assault a more astute captain might at that point have given Hooper a short spell. The batsmen would have been anticipating a constant barrage from the fast bowlers and might have found it difficult to return their thinking.

Hooper has dismissed three good batsmen in this series - Graham Thorpe twice and Stewart - and his captain should have shown greater trust in him now.

When he finally threw the ball to Hooper he had time for only four overs before rain started the lunch interval five



Lara: Good decisions

minutes early and in those overs he caused both batsmen problems and Atherton gave a technical chance to forward short leg when he tried to drive him over midwicket.

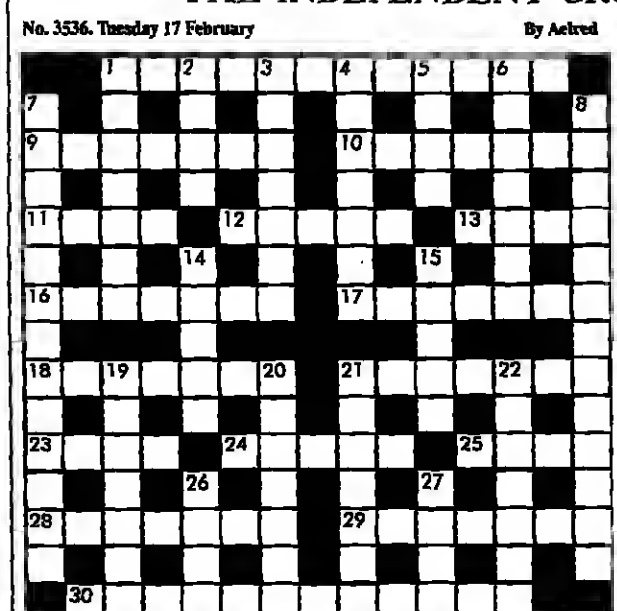
Twenty years ago, Clive Lloyd, the present West Indies team manager, would have begun with Michael Marshall and Michael Holding and then, without thinking, would have brought on Joel Garner and Colin Croft.

On this sort of pitch there would have been no need for anyone else. The present West Indian pace is not in the same class and it calls for more imaginative captaincy to winkle sides out.

QUEEN'S PARK OVAL SCOREBOARD

Fourth day: England won 100	M A Butcher not out.....1
WEST INDIES - First innings 159 (A R C Fraser 5-40, A R Coddick 5-67)	Extras (b 1, lb 2, nb 0).....18
ENGLAND - First innings 145 (C E Ambrose 5-25)	Total (for 4, 81 overs).....170
WEST INDIES - Second innings 210 (J C Adams 53)	Fall: 1-129 (Atherton); 2-145 (Crawley); 3-162 (Stewart); 4-168 (Hussain)
ENGLAND - Second innings	Bowling (to date): Walsh 25-5-54-2; Ambrose 21-6-26-2; Benjamin 11-3-24-0 (not out); McLean 4-0-17-0; Adams 6-3-5-0 (not out); Hooper 14-3-25-1
*M A Atherton c D Williams b Walsh 49	Progress: Third day: 50: 94 min, 24 overs. Best left stopped play at 5:45pm - close 52-0 (Atherton 30, Stewart 14) 26 overs. Fourth day: 100: 83 min, 434 overs. Rain stopped play at 7:15pm - lunch taken at 12:25 (Atherton 47, Stewart 64) 53 overs. 150: 227 min, 985 overs. Test 170-4 (Thompson 8, Butcher 1) 81 overs. Stewart's 50: 83 min, 142 balls, 8 fours. Impress: O B Hair and B Nichols. TV Replay Umpire: C E Cumberbatch. Match Referee: B H Jarman.
N Hussain bow b Hooper.....6	
C P Thompson not out.....9	
(25 min, 21 balls, 1 four)	
M A Butcher not out.....1	
(16 min, 8 balls)	

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Salt can't be added fancifully at the wrong time (12)
 - 9 Fiery GI no use for service (7)
 - 10 Dotting worker's sweet (7)
 - 11 Fat, heartless landowner (4)
 - 12 Wife backed vehicle to take on a kilo of seaweed (5)
 - 13 Record day is cold (4)
 - 16 Take too long on delivery round (7)
 - 17 Positive in ceremony, giving witty answer (7)
 - 18 Hard to starve if it's yielded (7)
 - 21 Pedestrian could find Capri so (7)
 - 23 Notion one advanced is a help generally (4)
 - 24 Try finding 11 more like this one (5)
 - 25 Suggesting company in US should take on a native South American (4)
 - 28 In such teaching you'd have instinctive knowledge (7)
 - 29 It could prevent sound reaching listeners on both sides of piano (7)
 - 30 Academic types securing agreement about a right for long tenure? (7,5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Verne's upset after his article is seen to demolish (7)
 - 2 Horse could go into it (4)
 - 3 A group of players hurried to be fourth? (4-3)
 - 4 Colonel, say, is not skating with king? (7)
 - 5 Spots came adopted by expert (4)
 - 6 They introduce heavy metal in Sweden (4-3)
 - 7 They show good state of NHS finances? (5,2,6)
 - 8 Maybe cost a thousand, formerly with cash, getting to share place? (5,8)
 - 14 Athenian could be in good odour? (5)
 - 15 Presently controlling power of golf club (5)
 - 19 Pole joins outfit to meet old composer (7)
 - 20 See the sights with desire to return for old contest (7)
 - 21 Children are cooey about nothing when given information (7)
 - 22 Ring America after having to cancel (7)
 - 26 Animal from farm in Kentucky (4)
 - 27 Callas, say, lost head in a hit of opera (4)

Negri's double vision of a bright future with Rangers

Football

By Simon Buckland

MARCO NEGRI says he is still experiencing "flashing" across his damaged eye and has been warned it could stay with him for years to come.

The Rangers striker sustained the injury last month during a squash game with his fellow Italian, Sergio Porrini, and was out of action for more than four weeks. His return to action was delayed by the need for permission to head the ball again because of his impaired vision, and Negri feared for his career.

Having been assured by experts he can continue, the 27-year-old has set his sights on a Scottish League and Cup double. The immediate aim is victory tonight at home to Motherwell to secure a Cup quarter-final place. Negri's relief at playing again is clear and he is determined to carry on regardless with his record of 34 goals since joining last summer from Perugia.

"My eye is getting better," he said. "I keep seeing a flashing across it yet I have been assured this is normal. According to the specialists this is not dangerous and other people with the injury have seen flashing for up to five years afterwards."

"It was a frustrating injury and I was disappointed and I suppose a little bit down when I had to stay at home resting in bed. There I was enjoying a game of squash with Sergio but it proved too dangerous. No more squash for me. That is the last time."

"I was concerned it might be serious and I thought about my career and about Rangers. The club is always the most important thing for me, firstly to win the league and hopefully the Cup. Who scores doesn't matter."

The prospect of Negri finding the scoresheet tonight has been boosted by the return of his main supplier, Brian Laudrup. The Dane was left out by Walter Smith last week after details were made public from Chelsea about Laudrup meeting Gianluca Vialli in midweek.

Smith's main selection problem for tonight is who to play instead of the suspended Porrini, with Craig Moore and Gordon Petric his main options.

Motherwell will again look to their veteran front pairing of Owen Coyle and Tommy Coyne to produce their best, and they are confident of delivering.

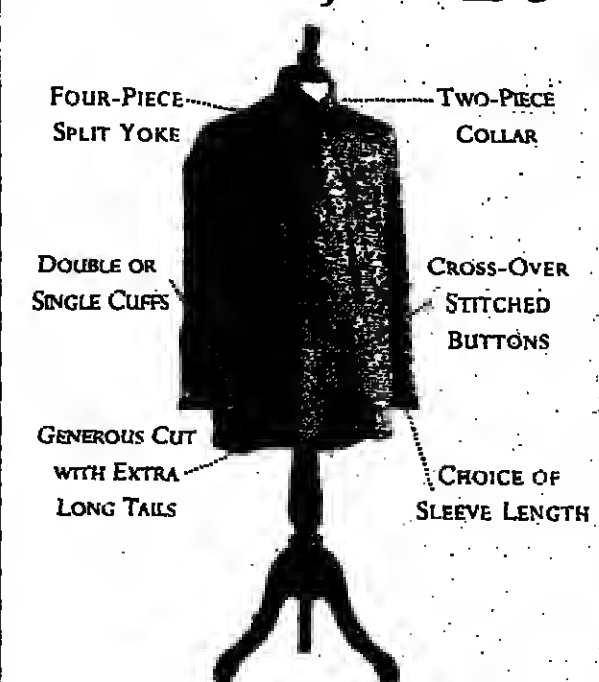
"We seem to get more joy against the Old Firm than most and hopefully we can capitalise on that," Coyle said. "We know it is a difficult tie, but it is a place everyone wants to play. If you can't enjoy it, there is not much point in playing the game."

In tonight's other replay, Dundee take on Ross County at Dens Park with the home manager Jocky Scott saying Dariusz Adamczuk will return to the starting line-up.

"He had been suspended the week before and I wanted to keep a winning team unchanged," Scott said. "But he made a big difference on Saturday, and he will return."

Advocate, the new man at Ibrox, page 27

JOSEPH TURNER
Introductory Offer -
superb two-fold cotton
shirts usually £36
now from just £26



Plus distinctive cufflinks and silk ties

For your FREE mail order
brochure phone 01845 575100
fax 01845 575111 or
e-mail: sales@josephturner.co.uk